

FRONTISPIECE.



*While the fond Youth reveals his ardent Flame,  
The modest Virgin's blushes own the same;  
To Church he points, and woo's her to comply;  
She fears to grant, but yet she can't deny.*

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FOR

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the Paths of *Virtue* and *Honor*.

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By CHARLES FREEMAN, Esq; and Others.

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*The generous heart by passion warm'd,  
May read in every page,  
How in its youth it should be charm'd,  
And blest at riper age.*

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## P R E F A C E.

**I**T will scarcely be disputed that persons may possess good understandings, and be qualified to acquit themselves with credit in conversation, and yet be unequal to the task of delivering their sentiments upon paper, in such a manner as to do justice to the subject on which they treat.

It has been often and justly observed, that the stile of epistolary correspondence should resemble that of familiar conversation; but it must be remarked, that the conversation here meant, is not that of the vulgar and uninformed, Even those who are acquainted with the productions of polite authors, if they are unaccustomed to writing, will not be able readily to determine in what manner to express themselves; for it cannot be expected but that we must be diffident of

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success

## P R E F A C E.

success in every new undertaking, and despair of arriving at excellency in those arts, wherein we have not had the advantage of experience.

It is presumed, that the following collection of Letters will serve as examples for giving a clear idea of the manner in which a correspondence should be maintained on the important points of Love and Marriage. They are not the production of one pen; the greatest part of them *having really passed between ladies and gentlemen, while engaged in courtship*; and, therefore, it may reasonably be supposed, that the passions are expressed according to the animated dictates of nature.

There are no kinds of epistolary writing requiring so much attention as those relating to Love and Marriage: for they are generally considered as the criterion by which a judgment is formed of the understanding; to inspire a favorable opinion of which is the most successful way of securing the conquest obtained by personal attractions.

The



## P R E F A C E.

The Letters in Verse will convince our readers that poetical talents are happily adapted to the expression of Love; and that they may be employed to give additional force to truth, by enriching nature with all the embellishments of art.

The Conversations and Complimentary Cards are introduced, that such of our readers as, through the various avocations of life, have been denied opportunities of attending to the forms of polite expression, may, by giving a grace and polish to their language, improve rusticity into good breeding. And here it may not be improper to observe that, though in the common occurrences of life, nothing more may be regarded than a plain declaration of our sentiments, it will be found that, in intercourses respecting Love and Marriage, unadorned truth will often fail to produce the desired effect: to ingratiate esteem, something more will be necessary than merely an endeavour to avoid exciting disgust; we must, in short, do every thing in the manner that we think will prove most agreeable to the desired object.

## P R E F A C E.

The Editor has now to acknowledge his obligations to those ladies and gentlemen to whose kindness he is indebted for the best letters in the following pages ; and to apologize for the few alterations he has introduced, which he conceived to be necessary, in order to give the Letters a more general turn, none of them being originally intended for the perusal of any, but the particular persons to whom they were respectively addressed.

After having long lamented, that there was no valuable work extant on the plan of the present publication, the Editor is happy in the opportunity of presenting to the public a miscellany which cannot want a recommendation, since every page will convince the reader that, instead of enervating or weakening, grace and elegance will give additional force to the impassioned language of the heart.

LETTERS

THE  
LOVER'S NEW GUIDE;

OR, FULL  
INSTRUCTIONS

CONCERNING  
Love, Courtship, and Marriage.

L E T T E R S.

*From a Young Gentleman of Sixteen, going to the University, to a Young Lady about the same Age, at Boarding-School, who was a Ward to the Gentleman's Father.*

*Dear Miss Arabella,*

BEING doomed to a temporary banishment from the presence of the most desirable object in life, I cannot let slip the favourable moment, which now offers, of tendering my warmest wishes for her happiness. Nurtured almost from our infancy together, the thoughts of parting fills me with more anxiety than any circumstance I ever yet experienced in life. I am persuaded, a heart, like my dear Arabella's, susceptible of the tenderest passions belonging to her sex, must share with me in the most poignant grief on this melancholy, though necessary occasion: but however distant I may be removed from the  
real

real object of my regard, her dear image will be ever present to my sight, that being too deeply impressed on my mind ever to be effaced. As on my arrival at College, the greatest part of my time will be engrossed by my studies, the only pleasure I shall be capable of enjoying, will be the happiness of gazing on my dear Girl's name, subscribed to the tenderest dictates of her heart, and transmitted to me, as a balm for a wounded mind; of this I hope she will not be sparing, as on it depends my ultimate happiness.

As the time of my departure is fixed to take place at the expiration of three days, I hope my dear Arabella will not fail of writing previous to that time; in anxious expectation of which, I remain unalterably yours,

CONSTANTINE HEARTFREE.

---

*The Young Lady's Answer.*

Sir,

**F**ORTUNATELY your letter arrived at a time when I stood most in need of assistance, as I must confess my mind was strangely agitated at the thoughts of parting with one, to whose family I acknowledge myself under the greatest obligations, and who himself has, by a most engaging behaviour, for a series of years past, contributed so much to my happiness.

Judge then, after this confession, whether I must not be a sharer of your grief; and, if I mistake

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take not, my share will be the most considerable; as while you are indulging yourself in all the gaieties inseparable from a college life, the unfortunate Arabella sits melancholy at home, with no other consolation, than the reflection, that she once was happy : poor amends for the loss she now feels, in being deprived of the company of him that was most dear to her; and who perhaps, at that very moment, is enjoying the smiles of some more happy fair one.

But let me not anticipate affliction; perhaps heaven designs a more propitious fate; and that, at the expiration of this mournful trial, I may be blessed with the sight of the amiable Constantine, returned with the same unalterable affection for his poor Arabella, as when he set out to his destined exile; till which happy æra, whatever balmy comfort is in the power of mortal to give, shall be gladly administered by the forlorn

ARABELLA.

*From the same Young Gentleman, on his Arrival at Oxford.*

*My Dearest Arabella,*

I Arrived here two days since, and now gladly embrace this opportunity of conveying to my lovely Girl the purest sentiments of an unfeigned passion. I am almost disgusted with my situation already, as, ever since my arrival, here has been

one

one continued scene of riot and dissipation. The kind of pleasures, to me, have no charms ; nor can I for a moment forget the superior excellencies of my beloved Fair one.

Oh ! my Arabella, with thee I could be happy even in the most humble station of life ; but to be deprived of thee, is insupportable. How then shall I bear this long interval of happiness. I fear I shall not be able to pursue my studies : yet will I strive—strive did I say—what ! strive to forget my Love : Oh, Heavens ! it cannot be pardon me Arabella, the very idea distracts me. How am I bewildered in this maze of love !

If then I should drop the least unguarded expression, derogatory to the refined sentiments of my Arabella ; forgive me, and impute it to the real cause. I could dwell for ever on this subject but am this instant summoned to evening prayers which I will gladly attend, and offer up my fervent supplications to the Deity, in behalf of my Love.

And now, my Arabella, I must conclude, with once more entreating you not to omit any opportunity of writing ; as on that only depends the present happiness of your unfeigned Lover

CONSTANTINE HEARTFREE.

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*The Young Lady's Reply.*

Sir,

WITH much pleasure I received the news of your safe arrival at Oxford. I am not at all surpris'd, that a mind like yours, not as yet deprav'd

ruined by vicious inclinations, should be discovered at first sight of a place, which I am afraid with more propriety be called a seminary of vice than learning.

Yet, Sir, when you become a little better acquainted, and have made some fashionable connections in this wicked place, I much question whether all your prudence and morality will be able to withstand the temptations that you are likely to meet with; and in a short time, I presume, all that rhapsody, contained in your last letter, will be entirely thrown away, and even the very name of Arabella be no more thought on, than if she had never existed.

Yet custom has rendered this sort of treatment familiar to our sex, that we naturally look for it from the man we love, and if deceived, it gives a disagreeable addition to our happiness; but this custom proves to be the case; so true are those verses in the song, which say

“ Man was form'd to be a rover;

“ Foolish woman to believe.”

However, Sir, I will not condemn you without a fair trial, agreeable to the laws of the land; when you prove your innocence to the satisfaction of the court, you shall be immediately rewarded with the hand and heart of

ARABELLA.

*Frem*

*From a Gentleman to a Lady, to whom he had paid his Addresses, on seeing her in company with his Rival.*

*Madam,*

THE very favourable reception which your addressee ever met with from you, encouraged me to hope that your affections were pre-engaged; that I stood first in the list of your admirers; and even sometimes I had vanity enough to think I had gained a place in your heart. The many happy hours I have spent in your company, the agreeable walks, and the little innocent liberties in which you have indulged me, all conspired to confirm my vain hopes with the most flattering ideas.

In this sweet delusion, I thought myself the happiest of mortals, and vainly imagined the time far distant, that would crown my utmost wishes with their desired success.

What then must be my surprise, at seeing you but a few nights since, in a public assembly with my declared rival? All my philosophy could not conceal my chagrin, which I plainly perceived you noticed, and that with an air of triumph on the cause. I quitted the room with disgust; a thousand tortures racked my very soul, and in the first emotions of my grief, I determined to chastise the insolence of my rival, as I then thought; but on recollection considered him rather as an object of envy than hatred, and should have despised the wretch who could have been blind to such superior charms.



You alone, Madam, are the object of my resentment; it is to you only I am indebted for the misery which is now entailed on me; and I am now perfectly convinced, that dear *Variety* is the idol of your whole sex; that every new lover meets with better success than the former, and still the last is happier than the first.

With these sentiments, Madam, I must finally take my leave; one favour only requesting, which is, when you have perused these lines, commit them to the flames, and thereby destroy the remembrance, as you have done the happiness of the once favoured

CHARLES LOVEMORE.

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*The Lady's Answer.*

Sir,

I Received your curious epistle, and for the soul of me, could not refrain from scribbling a few lines by way of answer. What, Sir! because a lady condescends to walk out with, and indulges you in a few trifling liberties, as she does in common the other animals about her, are you to lord it over her, and assume an authority of scrutinizing into her conduct? That woman who submits to this before marriage, is likely to have a fine time of it afterwards!

Believe me, Sir, this will never be my case, and I should despise that lover who would not suffer another man to like his mistress as well as himself; indeed I think it a compliment paid to

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his understanding, in making her the object of his choice, whose distinguished merit can attract the admiration of others.

I would advise you, Sir, to learn better in future; and as my last request, let the flame of love consume your jealousy, and then possibly you may hear farther from

MELINDA CARELESS

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*From a Young Tradesman, just entered into Business, to a Gentleman's Daughter in the same Neighbourhood; with whom he had long been on Terms of Friendship, but without a formal Declaration of Love.*

Dear Miss,

A Fire which has been long kindling generally proves most violent when it bursts out into a flame. This, Miss, is exactly my own case at this time: I have long conceived a passion, which has hitherto been concealed under the mask of friendship.

Conscious of my own unworthiness, I dared not avow that passion, till Fortune had placed me in a sphere of life to justify my pretensions with some degree of propriety; and that time being at length arrived, I can no longer stifle the flame which has now broke forth, and will have its way in spite of all opposition.

In plain terms, Miss, I love you to distraction: the charms of your person, added to the beauties of your mind, have rendered me your absolute slave:

our

our sentiments are perfectly known to each other : long tried in friendship, which is the foundation of love, let us proceed to finish the superstructure by uniting our hands in the sacred bond of wedlock.

I will not presume to flatter, as I know your generous mind disdains it; therefore will not address myself to your passions, but appeal to reason only, to plead in behalf of my love. You are well acquainted with what has hitherto been my conduct in life, therefore shall only add, if I am so happy as to succeed in my wishes, the remainder of my days shall be devoted to our mutual interest; and my greatest study shall be to render myself worthy the object of my choice.

Deign then, my Charmer, to hear my humble supplications, and vouchsafe to grant a kind compliance to my suit. I beg, dear Miss, an answer, for which I shall wait with as much anxiety, as a dying man does the dreadful sentence of the Physician. Accept, my dear Girl, my warmest wishes, and permit me to subscribe myself for ever yours,

THOMAS TRADELOVE.

*The Young Lady's Answer.*

Sir,

I Received your obliging Letter. The compliments you are pleased to pay me are far more than I merit; but gentlemen cannot avoid flattery, though they pretend to disclaim it. The task you impose on me is of such a nature, as re-

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quires

quires much consideration before we come to a conclusion

I remember an old adage, "Those that marry in haste, repent at leisure," which I believe is too often verified. I must confess, as a friend, you held a very high place in my esteem: and also that I have spent many agreeable hours, and thought myself very happy in your acquaintance; but, Sir, love and friendship, though very nearly allied, often please most when separated; besides, Sir, there are many preliminaries to be settled, previous to a final determination.

Therefore, Sir, as your Physician, all the comfort I can now administer is, to tell you, *there are hopes*; after a few more visits I shall be better acquainted with your case, when you shall hear your final doom, from

CHARLOTTE EASY.

*The Young Tradesman's Reply.*

*Angelic Fair One!*

WORDS cannot sufficiently express, the unutterable pleasure I received on perusing your kind Epistle. With extasy of joy, I immediately cried out in the language of the Poet, "Let this auspicious day be ever sacred; no mourning, no misfortunes happen on it; let it be marked for triumphs and rejoicings; let happy lovers ever make it holy; chuse it to bless their hopes and crown their wishes! This  
"happy



"happy day, which gives me my *amiable Char-*  
*lotte!*" For now I consider you as my own.

Perhaps you will say, I am too sanguine: it cannot be; for when a dying patient receives hopes from his physician, it is ever considered as an unfailing omen of success. You, my Love, are my Physician, and have shewn uncommon skill in restoring me to life, when almost expiring. Go on, celestial Fair One, perfect the work thou hast so well begun, and as a dying man would return unfeigned thanks to the Deity for his recovery, so do thou accompany me to the Holy Altar, and receive my sacred vows of constancy and love.

Let us not defer the happy moment, and whatever preliminaries are necessary on my part, shall be settled instantly to your utmost wishes. My love will admit of no delay; haste then my Charmer, complete my happiness, by immediately giving your hand to the impatient

THOMAS TRADELOVE.

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*The Young Lady's Answer to his second Letter.*

*Dear Sir,*

IT is in vain to conceal my passion any longer; therefore I plainly throw off all disguise, and own you are dear to me; but notwithstanding this acknowledgment, I cannot altogether approve of so much haste. My father as yet has not been

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made

made acquainted with our loves, but I believe has long suspected it, and I am persuaded, his consent may be easily obtained, as I have often heard him express the greatest regard for you, on account of the many amiable qualities you possess: Therefore, Sir, you are at liberty to consult with him on the subject, as soon as you think proper; and if he approves of your suit, let him determine the time and mode necessary for completing our wishes.

And now, Sir, as you have found me so compliant to your desires, I hope you will not abuse the confidence I have placed in you; but that by a strict adherence to the paths of virtue and honour, our love may increase with our years: thus mutually striving to set an example of conjugal felicity to the rising generation.

With the most affectionate regard, I must bid you a present adieu, in hopes of this being the last time of subscribing myself

CHARLOTTE EASY.

*From a Young Gentleman, one of the people called Quakers, to a Young Lady of the same Persuasion.*

*Esteemed Friend,*

THOU mayest, perhaps, have perceived that I have long looked upon thee with eyes of love and affection. I believe thou knowest enough of me, my family, and connections, to suppose that I would not be guilty of making an offer which might be derogatory to thy character to accept.

My father is in good circumstances, and his acquirements are the produce of honest industry. His kindness to me has tempted him to bestow on me such an education, as, I hope, with the blessing of God, and the exertion of my own honest endeavours, will enable me to make a respectable figure to the world in general, and particularly to those among whom I most wish to be thought well of.

I know that thy father has not been less careful of thy education; nor less anxious that thou shouldest receive those early impressions of virtue and religion, which may influence thy future life.

On this basis, then, which I hope is a solid one, I ground my pretensions to thy favor; and if thou wilt listen to my suit, and gratify the ardent wish of my heart, to make thee happy, thou wilt confer a lasting obligation on thy

Ever faithful Friend,

EZEKIEL TRUSTY.

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*The Female Quaker's Reply.*

*Esteemed Friend,*

I Have received thy letter, containing a plain and explicit declaration of thy love; and, on a business of this important nature, it becomes me to be equally plain and explicit. Thy cousin Jonathan has, for some weeks past, addressed me in the stile of one who wished to become my husband; and I know not how, consistently with acting honestly by him, I can give my vows to another.

another. But for this reason, I should make no scruple to give thee the preference, though I have not hitherto perceived, to use thy own words, that thou hast looked upon me "with eyes of love and affection."

I did not know that thou hadst this partiality in my favour; or perhaps I might have treated another with more indifference, as I am not insensible of thy merits.

However, as matters are now situated, I know not how to give thee any other answer, than that I am thine assured friend,

MARTHA LAMB.

*A second Letter from the Lover.*

*Much respected Friend,*

**I** Consider myself as greatly obliged by the favor of thy letter, in answer to mine, which would have given me the utmost concern, had not a circumstance which hath happened within a few days past, encouraged me to hope that I yet may have the happiness of calling thee mine.

My cousin, of whom thou hast made mention, is embarked for Philadelphia; nor have I any notion that he entertains any farther thoughts of seeking thee as a wife. If I had, I would not have made the present application; but would have endeavoured to resign to the fate that awaited me, however severe such a resignation might have been.

But

But I now hope, as the great obstacle is removed, and that as the removal appears to have been a matter of his own choice, thou wilt compassionate the case of

Thine affectionate Friend,

EZEKIEL TRUSTY.

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*A compliant Answer to the Letter above-mentioned.*

*My worthy Friend,*

I Never entertained any doubt of the sincerity of thy heart, and the contents of thy last letter convinces me that I was not wrong in my conjecture.

The embarkation of thy cousin for America, without notice to me or my relations, and without any apology for his conduct, is a sufficient proof that the professions of his regard to me were not founded on that esteem which should be the great basis of a contract for life: and as I was prepossessed in thy favor, before I knew of thy esteem, I shall have no objection to meeting thee in the presence of our general friends, provided our immediate relations have no objection to our union. Once more I subscribe myself,

Thine assured Friend,

MARTHA LAMB.

*From*



*From a Young Gentleman at Boarding-School, to  
a Young Lady at another School in the Neigh-  
bourhood.*

*My dear Charmer,*

THE impression that your idea has made on me ever since I had the happiness of seeing you at Monsieur de Louvre's ball, is of so forcible a nature, that no time, no circumstance, can eradicate it; and I shall be the most wretched of all mortals, if some method cannot be contrived for the continuance of this correspondence, which I have prevailed on your French teacher obligingly to assist me in beginning.

Believe me, lovely Miss Clarinda, that if I am indulged in this first and most favourite wish of my heart, I shall deem myself one of the most happy, otherwise one of the most miserable of the human race.

I presume you are not unacquainted with my family or connections, and that I need not seek to give you a more undoubted proof of my honor, than by assuring you that I will, in all my actions, endeavour to approve myself worthy of the respectable line from which I am descended. I am, dear Madam, with the utmost ardor of affection, your ever devoted admirer,

FREDERICK FONDWELLS

*The*

*The Young Lady's Reply.*

Sir,

I saw you at Monsieur de Louvre's ball; but I saw you with no distinction. Your figure made no impression on my heart, and I retired from the scene of pleasure with as much indifference, as if Mr. Fondwell had not been present. In fact, Sir, I beheld some other gentlemen on that occasion, whose names I can recollect with more satisfaction than yours.

You say something of your family and connections. Of the first I have heard a respectable character, and I have no doubt but that the latter are of the most honorable kind.

Yet, though my heart is at present unembarrassed, I cannot think any thing of Mr. Fondwell's address for many reasons; among which, the most forcible are my own youth and inexperience, and the duty I owe to that guardian who has acted to me as a second father. I cannot be unpolite enough to refuse thanking you for the distinction with which you have honored me, and am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

CLARINDA POOLE.

*A second Letter from the Young Gentleman.**Dearest of your Sex!*

UNFLATTERING as your letter is to my warmest wishes, I thank you most unfeignedly for the sincerity by which it appears to be dictated;

dictated; and that it does not absolutely forbid me to hope.

Happy am I in the declaration that your heart is unembarrassed; and much happier shall I be, if it be my fate to entwine it. I will cherish the fond hope that the day may yet arrive, when I shall not be wholly indifferent to you; and in that hope I will, if you forbid me not, make application to your guardian, as soon as I quit my present situation, which will be within a month.

The duty you mention to be due to your guardian, is, to me, one of the surest pledges of the goodness of your heart. Your youth and inexperience, Madam, claim that you should have time to look around: and, ardent as my love is, if you will but give me leave to hope for the slightest share of your favor, after the expiration of one, two, or three years, I will gladly wait the term of probation; and in the interim I will do everything to convince you of that warmth of affection with which I am, my dearest Clarinda,

Unalterably yours,

FREDERICK FONDWELL.

*The Answer.*

Sir,

I Scarcely know how to reply to your second letter. You appear to me to be a precipitating Gentleman, in the very moment that you talk of waiting one, two, or three years. If you will apply to my guardian, I cannot help it; but remember that I shall not quit school these few months

months. This is all the declaration you are at present to expect, from

Your obedient Servant,

CLARINDA POOLE.

*From an Exciseman in the Country, to a Widow Gentlewoman of small Fortune.*

*Madam,*

IT is now above three years since I have been settled in this division; and I hope my conduct has been such as hath met the approbation, not only of those among whom my business lay, but of the whole neighbourhood. I will be very plain and explicit with you, Madam, as I have always been with every person with whom I have had any connections in life.

I am possessed of a little independence of sixty pounds a year; and I am told, Madam, that your fortune amounts to about the same sum. It requires no skill in calculation to prove, that two persons can live better on one hundred and twenty pounds a year, than one can on sixty.

You know that persons in my way of life are liable to be removed to distant parts at the pleasure of those who appoint them.

If you should favour my suit, for I intend this as an address, in that case I would submit it to your will, whether you would chuse to remove, or that I should resign my present employment; since my respect for you is too great, to admit of my taking any step of consequence in life without

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your

your concurrence. But even if you should disapprove of moving it may happen that I may be continued several years longer in my present station; and in that case, my wages would be so much in addition to our income.

As my view is serious, and the end of it marriage, I will presume to expect the favour of an answer; and I hope I need not make any apology for declaring myself,

Your most respectful Admirer,

WILLIAM GAGE.

*The Gentlewoman's Reply.*

*Sir,*

**Y**OUR civil letter demands as civil an answer. You must not accuse me of vanity, when I say that your's is not the first, or even the second address I have had on the subject of marriage, since the death of my late worthy husband: for a worthy man he was; and I should have but a bad opinion of that suitor's heart which could not join with me in doing justice to his virtues.

Having been thus free with you, Sir, I will tell you farther, that the addresses which have been hitherto made me, have come from persons totally disagreeable to my inclinations.

With regard to my little fortune, it is at least twenty pounds a year more than you have been told: but that, even in a widow's opinion, ought to make no difference, where the man can be approved.

I have



I have heard a very favorable account of your character, and I dare believe it is conformable to the truth. Having said thus much, it will be needless to add, that you will not be an unwelcome visitor to, Sir,

Your very humble Servant,  
MARGARET THOMAS.

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*From a Young Gentleman of the Jewish Persuasion  
to the Object of his Affections.*

*Dear Miss Isaacs,*

I Have not enjoyed one hour of real repose since I had the honor of dancing with you at Mr. Sylva's, on account of the marriage of his daughter with Mr. Solomon Fernandez.

The idea of your agreeable person is perpetually with me; and I feel no repose, not even for a moment, either in the counting-house, on the 'change, or at the synagogue. The rise and fall of stocks has no longer any influence on my passions; nor have I any object of care, but what may arise from the reception this letter may meet with.

I have communicated the sentiments of my mind to your brother Levi, who has generously undertaken to intercede in my behalf, and to accompany you, after the duties of the Sabbath, to the White-Conduit Gardens, next Saturday, where, if you will be generous enough to attend, you will find a faithful admirer, and an ardent lover, in,

Dear Miss,

Your most devoted Servant,  
ISRAEL ABRAHAMS.

*The Young Lady's Answer.**Sir,*

I Have the favor of your letter, and if I had no inclination to consult but my own, I might possibly comply with the requisition made in the latter part of it; but you will remember that I have a mother, to whom I owe all possible duty and attachment. She has given me a liberal education, and has brought me up in the strictest principles of our religion, one material part of which is, to "honour our parents."

Now I will never so far depart from my sense of the sacredness of that obligation, as to violate the duty that I owe her.

My brother has already spoken to me in your favor; and I will be honest enough to acknowledge, that I have no objection to Mr. Abrahams on his own account. On the contrary, perhaps, I have a predilection in his favor; but if any application of the kind you seem to intend, is to be made to me, my mother's consent must be first obtained.

I am, Sir, with great respect,  
Your most humble Servant,  
RACHEL ISAACS.

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*The Gentleman's Reply.**Dear Madam,*

O P PRESSED by the force of my love, and the generous concession you seem to have made in my favor, I was absolutely unable to wait on

on your mother at your own house, lest the sight of you should have rendered me incapable of the very business which might bring me thither.

For this reason I took an opportunity of seeing her at Mr. Mordecai's, in Lemon-street, Goodman's-Fields: and happy I was that I took the precaution I have mentioned: for out of your sight I was able to paint my passion in its genuine colours.

The good old lady saw its force, and has permitted me the honor of visiting you, which I will assuredly do this day, if I have not your orders to the contrary.

It is unnecessary, my dear Miss Isaacs, to mention the independence of my circumstances, with which you and your family are so well acquainted: but permit me to say, that if I had an empire I would lay it at your feet; for I am, with unfeigned affection,

Your most passionate admirer,

ISRAEL ABRAHAMS.

*The Lady's final Answer.*

Sir,

MY mother has communicated to me what passed between her and you at Mr. Mordecai's, and have her permission to inform you that we shall drink tea this afternoon at six o'clock.

Your most humble Servant,

RACHEL ISAACS.

*From a Young Farmer, to the Daughter of another Farmer.*

*Dear Molly,*

**Y**OU well know that your father and mine are both in good circumstances, and are able to do handsome things for us, in case we should come together. It is a good two years since last Martinmas, that I first paid my respects to you, and you seem to take no more regard of me now, than you did at November fair, and faith hardly as much.

Though I be woundily in love with you, yet I do not like to be played upon; and if Thomas Carter thinks he has a better chance than I, e'en let him make the best on't. I have an honest heart, and woudn't wrong any man alive: but I wont be imposed upon. So I desire you will let me have an answer by Richard, who will wait for it.

If it be that you despise me, why I can't help it, though it would give me a great deal of vexation; but if you should chuse to return love for love, I should think myself the happiest young fellow in ten parishes, and would do every thing in my power to prove myself

Your faithful Lover till Death,  
JAMES BARLEY.

*The Girl's Answer.*

*Dear Mr. James,*

**Y**OUR man Richard has just brought me your letter, and I could not rest a moment till I answered it. I know as well as you do, that it is  
ab ove

above two years since you first spoke to me in a civil way, for well do I remember the day, as my poor heart can witness: but this is the first time that ever you spoke your mind out, as a body may say; and you know it was not the place of a maiden to speak first.

As to what you say of Thomas Carter, he never said a word to me but as a neighbour; and let me tell you that I could have had his betters at any time, if somebody else had not stood in the way.

As for despising you, Mr. Barley, I am sure I never did; and may be, it is not quite in my power.—But no more of that. As to returning love for love, that is a bold word; but I may venture to say, that I never was unkind to any body. My mother has read these lines, and gives me leave to say that I am

Your Friend and Servant,

MARY ROSE.

✍ If you have any thing more to write, my mother says, that when Richard comes this way he may leave your letter.

*The Young Farmer's second Letter.*

Dear Molly,

I Am strangely pleased with your kind answer to my lines, and hope I wrote nothing to disoblige you. I am sure it was the farthest thing in the world from my mind if I did: but I was a little jealous of Tom Carter, because he used to look so woundily hard upon you at church: but dear Molly, let us think no more of these things.

I have



I have told my father how much I am in love with you, and he says he will give me the little farm at Dean-Bottom, and £400 to stock it, when we are married. He has sent his respects to your mother, who invites us (God bless her) to dine with you next Sunday, when I hope we shall have nothing to talk about but the happy day, the licence, and the ring.

Dear Molly,

Your faithful Lover,

JAMES BARLEY.

*From a Young Gentleman of the Law, to the Daughter of a Counsellor of Lincoln's-Inn.*

Madam,

I Know not what it is of presumption that prompts me to the daringneſs of thus addreſſing you, to whom I am almoſt a ſtranger, on a ſubject the moſt intereſting imaginable to the human heart.

Warmed with a paſſion which I have no language to expreſs, I am impelled to appeal to you as the arbitreſs of my fate. Long, Madam, have I been acquainted with your merit, from the general voice of all who know you; but it is within a few days only that I became a ſlave to the ſuperiority of your beauty. You will recollect the ball given in Bloomsbury-Square, on occaſion of Mr. G——'s being called to the degree of a Serjeant at Law; and my flattering hopes tell me it is poſſible that you may alſo recollect with what earneſtneſs of attention, almoſt to rudeneſs, my eyes beheld you.

I would

I would beg your pardon for the freedom with which I regarded you, if I thought it necessary to make any apology for obeying the genuine impulses of the heart: but as it is impossible to resist, so it would be idle to apologize for them.

Will you now permit me, Madam, to declare with the frankest sincerity, that I am perfectly enamoured of you, and that much of the happiness or misery of my future life will depend on your acceptance or rejection of my vows.

Above disguise, and courting no favor which I would not be solicitous to merit, I have taken the liberty of writing to your honored father, to whom I have honestly disclosed my passion. I have made him acquainted with my family and circumstances, and have enclosed a copy of the rent-roll of an estate, which will descend to me on the death of an aunt who is near ninety. Far be it from me to wish her death; but whenever that event shall happen, my circumstances will be very ample. At present they are by no means confined; and the share I have in Mr. F——'s business, will enable me to maintain as a Gentlewoman, the Lady who shall honor me with her hand.

You see, Madam, I have been very explicit, as becomes the character of a gentleman. If you can persuade yourself to think favorably of my passion, I shall deem myself honored in becoming your guardian and protector for life: for I am, with the most profound regard,

Dear Madam,

Your most devoted Admirer,

CHARLES LYTTLETON.

*The Lady's Reply.**Sir,*

I Had no sooner read your letter than I communicated it to my father, who has given me leave to say, that he will take two or three days to deliberate on your propoſal, and will then write to you in a manner as explicit as he thinks your candor deſerves.

In the mean time I think myſelf honored by your good opinion, and am

*Sir,*

Your moſt humble Servant,

CHARLOTTE COKE.

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*From Mr. Lyttleton to Miſs Coke.*

*Deareſt Madam,*

I Am this moment favored with a letter from your father, who has done me the honor of approving my pretenſions, and permitted me to pay my addreſſes to you: a favor which I ſhall remember with gratitude to the laſt moment of my life: nor ſhall any day of that life paſs over without a ſincere acknowledgment of the obligation.

Permit me now, Madam, in the moſt ardent terms, to declare how ſincerely I love you: permit me to ſay, that my happineſs is involved in yours, and that my higheſt pleaſure will conſiſt in contributing to your ſatisfaction. When, my dear

Dear Miss Coke, shall I have the honor of declaring in person, that warmth of affection, that purity of love, with which I am, and ever must be,

Your most devoted Servant,

and most faithful Admirer,

CHARLES LYTTLETON.

*Miss Coke's Answer,*

*Sir,*

THE favor of your last letter should not thus long have gone unacknowledged, but that my father has been in the country, and I was determined not to take any step of importance without his approbation: but he is now returned, and I am permitted to say, that Mr. Lyttleton will always be a welcome visitor in the Old Buildings, Lincoln's-Inn; and it is no pain to me to add, that when we are at the Forest, room at our table will always be found, for a gentleman of whom my father speaks in the highest terms of respect.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLOTTE COKE.

*From*

*From a Gentleman at New-York, to a Young Lady  
at Boston, in America.*

*My dear Maria,*

**L**ITTLE did I think, when I had last the happiness of conversing with you, that this satisfaction would have been so soon denied me, by the calamitous situation in which our country is involved: but, perhaps, it is for our sins that we are thus punished; and in that case we ought to submit to the afflictive stroke without repining.

It is equally foreign to my purpose, and contrary to my inclination, to enquire, by what series of political events our country is thus made a scene of blood and devastation: but I cannot help lamenting any and every event that robs me of the company of my Maria.

Dearly as I love you; and dearly as, I trust, I am loved again, I would not urge the subject of wedlock, while the sword of war is sheathed in the bowels of our country. Methinks I would not wish to become the father of a family, till I had before me something like a prospect that my children might hope to enjoy the blessings of peace.

Dreadful, indeed, are those times, when a letter on the subject of Love must be couched in terms like these; but it is impossible not to write from our feelings; and I hope the time will never arrive, when an honest American shall blush to own the dictates of a faithful heart.

Such a heart do I possess, and to you is it devoted; while it beats with vital warmth it will be wholly



wholly yours. At all times, in all contingencies, I shall hope for your favor, which I will endeavour to deserve, not by paying the vile compliments which distinguish and disgrace the European lover; but by an honest expression of that genuine affection with which a plain-hearted American tells his Mistress, that he is devoted to her service.

I beg to hear from you the first opportunity; and am, with unabating love and affection,

My dear Maria,

Your ever faithful and sincere

THOMAS LEE.

*The Reply.*

*Dear Mr. Lee,*

I Entirely agree with you in sentiments respecting that resignation with which we ought to meet the afflictive strokes of Providence, which has ever some wise end, some benevolent purpose to answer, though impenetrable to the contracted views of mortals.

I lament, as much as you can do, the calamitous situation of our country: but a ray of hope breaks through the gloom, and presents a prospect of the happy reconciliation, which I flatter myself will yet take place between Great-Britain and her Colonies: for I cannot be persuaded to think, that those whom laws, language, religion, and consanguinity have bound together in the strictest ties, will be for ever enemies.

In the mean time I highly approve your resolution of declining all thoughts of marriage for the

D

present

present. The resolution is worthy the dignity of your sentiments, and the purity of your love.

If nothing extraordinary happens to prevent me, I shall be at New-York in the beginning of June; and in the mean time you are sure of the unabating affection of

MARIA SAYRE.

*Miss Theodosia Adams to Henry Brightwell, Esq.*

Sir,

**D**EPARTING as I do from the rules of decorum prescribed to my sex, I must trust to your good sense and politeness to excuse the seeming impropriety of my behaviour; and while I declare more than is customary for women to do, I must hope that there is one man who possesses more humanity than to affront a woman merely because she has a partiality in his favor.

I will tell you, Sir, (though blushing I tell you) that I have enjoyed little of repose since I saw you at the Ball at Guildhall on Lord Mayor's Day. If you are not absolutely engaged I shall hope for the honor of seeing you in Basinghall-street, once within a week after the receipt of this letter. It is superfluous for me to mention matters of fortune, since it is well known, that mine is one of the first in the city.

I am, Sir, your most humble Servant,

THEODOŠIA ADAMS.

*Mr.*

*Mr. Brightwell's Answer.*

*Madam,*

**I** Conceive myself abundantly honored by the contents of your letter, to which I am totally at a loss how to make a proper reply. Only to seem to give a denial to a lady has something in it abhorrent to the feelings of a man of common spirit and politeness:--but what in my case can be done?

Some months ago, Madam, I might have rejoiced in the reception of such a letter as now gives me the most poignant pain. -I have paid my addresses to Miss Barber, of Lothbury; my vows have been accepted; her friends have approved the intended match, and Thursday next is fixed on for the happy day.

My intended bride, with a generosity that must be pleasing to a liberal mind, begs that she may have the honor of ranking Miss Adams among the number of her friends.

I am, Madam, with a grateful sense of the favor you intended me,

Your most obliged and devoted servant,

HENRY BRIGHTWELL.

*An honest Tar's Farewell to his Sweetheart, previous to his sailing on a secret Expedition.*

Dear Susan,

WITH great reluctance I must now bid you  
a present farewell: my country calls, and  
with pleasure I obey, regretting nothing but the  
D 2 absence

absence of my dear girl. Her presence would inspire me with courage to face an host of foes ; but as that happiness is denied me, the only consolation left is the hopes of a speedy return, crowned with laurels of victory, and loaded with the spoils of the enemy. The very idea of such a meeting with my dear Susan, after a painful absence, fills me with inexpressible joy. How eagerly then shall I embrace the happy moment, when fortune shall not only give me an opportunity of beholding all that is dear to me on earth, but at the same time shall enable me to tender her my future services through life.

Thus, my dear Susan, if this sweet idea should be realized, of which I flatter myself there is little doubt, shall we pass the remainder of our lives in a state of perfect joy and tranquility, uninterrupted with the anxiety annexed to a seafaring life. One thing only, my dear girl, permit me to mention, which is, that notwithstanding the inexpressible pleasure which must arise from a domestic life with so amiable a partner, yet if at any future period my presence shall be deemed necessary to assist in chastising the insolence of our insidious foes, every other consideration, however endearing, must give place to the love and duty I owe to my king and country.

With these sentiments I am persuaded my dear Susan will agree ; as a woman will never be secure in the affection of a man who is base enough to desert his country in time of danger.

And now, my dear Susan, I must once more bid you adieu. Our sails are spread, and the whole ship's crew seem impatient to be gone : so eagerly does a true English seaman wish for an op-

portunity of displaying his native courage against every hostile invader. Fired with the same laudable ambition, excuse me from saying more at this time, than that I am for ever yours,

BEN. STOUTOAK.

P. S. Let me hear from you as soon as possible, and direct for me on board the Invulnerable at Plymouth; as we may yet be some days in harbour.

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*The Young Woman's Answer.*

*Dear Ben,*

WITH great grief I heard the news of your departure: where you are bound, or whether I shall ever see you again, God knows; and to him I shall offer up my daily prayers for your safety and preservation. Oh Ben! did you but know what I suffer at this time, indeed you would pity me; but why should I repine when you are called upon to revenge your country's wrongs, and what are the sufferings of an individual, compared to those of a whole nation? Yet, though I cannot but regret your absence, I shall endeavour to console myself as much as possible, with the hopes that the time will shortly arrive when I shall behold you returning in triumph, crowned with victorious honors: till which happy day I must now bid you a sad farewell, and in anxious expectation of which, I remain unalterably yours,

SUSAN TRUELOVE.

*A second Letter from the same honest Seaman on his return to England, after having made a very prosperous and victorious Voyage.*

*Dear Susan,*

**I** Have now the pleasure of informing you, that our ship arrived safe at Spithead last night; that after having given the French a hearty drubbing, I am returned sound wind and limb, and wish for nothing but the sight of my dear Susan, which I hope will be in a few days, as I expect to be ordered to London, as a guard to the immense treasure which we have taken from the enemy.

After cruizing some time in the Bay, during which time we took several small prizes, we joined the grand fleet off Cape Finistère; a few days after which, we met with the combined fleets of France and Spain, with a very large convoy of rich merchantmen homeward bound. Our admiral immediately gave the signal for a general engagement, which was instantly obeyed, and continued with great bravery on all sides, for the space of six hours, without any material difference, except from the loss of men, which was very considerable on the side of the enemy, as our shot did amazing execution. Night coming on we were obliged to desist, though much against the inclinations of our brave seamen, who could hardly be prevailed on by their officers to wait till day-light for a renewal of the attack.

Such a good look-out was kept during the night, that few, if any, of the merchantmen escaped.

No sooner day-light appeared, than we again began the attack with redoubled vigor, which they  
returned



returned with much courage, but at length were obliged to submit to the superior power of Old England, which, in spite of all opposition, will ever remain master of the sea. One of the Frenchmen maintained a running fight with our ship for six glasses; but we pouring into her a broadside betwixt wind and water, Monsieur was obliged to strike his flag to our brave English boys. Upon the whole, we have taken six of their large ships, and about twenty merchantmen, which we have conducted in triumph to Old England.

As in all probability this action, my dear Susan, will put an end to the war, I shall shortly have an opportunity of enjoying the treasure I have acquired at the hazard of my life, with her for whose sake only life was worth preserving; when that happy day arrives, I hope to convince the British Fair, that the heart of a true seaman is a prize of no inconsiderable value, and well worth attaining.

As I hope to be with my dear girl in a few days, shall now conclude, with assuring her that I remain her constant lover,

BEN. STOUTOAK.

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*From a Linen-Draper's Apprentice to a Silk-Mercer's Daughter.*

*Dear Miss,*

THE term of my apprenticeship being almost expired, the latter part of which indeed has passed almost imperceptibly, owing to the happiness I have received from your agreeable conversation,

sation, and that engaging sprightliness of disposition for which you are so justly distinguished from the generality of your sex, whose inanimate souls are scarce capable of kindling a spark of desire, while the charms of your person, joined with the natural vivacity you possess, never fail to create a flame in the heart of every one who approaches you. To you then, Miss, I acknowledge myself under the greatest obligations; and as I would not wish to be thought ungrateful, permit me to make some kind of return for the many favors received. If then a heart wholly unattached to any one but yourself, and incapable of ever altering, be deemed worthy your acceptance, I shall think myself happy in bestowing it; perfectly convinced, that I can never meet with an object so truly deserving. With these sentiments, Miss, permit me to add, that as I have hitherto found so much pleasure in bondage, I am encouraged to pursue it, and am resolved, with your permission, to suffer myself to be again put in chains, and hope for a much longer term of years than before. Shall think myself happy, Miss, in hearing your sentiments on this subject, which I beg you will convey in a line as soon as possible, to your most passionate admirer,

WILLIAM DIAPER.

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*The Young Lady's Answer.*

Sir,

**P**ERMIT me in the first place to acknowledge my obligations for the many compliments you are pleased to pay to my person and my accomplishments,

plishments, which I am sensible are far more than they deserve: but Gentlemen will flatter. The task you impose on me, is of such a nature, that it requires much more experience in life, than I have yet had, to be able to perform it. And I would advise you, Sir, not to be too hasty; as however fond you may be of bondage at present, perhaps when you have enjoyed a little of the sweets of liberty, all these fine sentiments may be thrown away and forgotten. Therefore, Sir, as you have experienced the one, give the other a fair trial also; and then, if you are resolved to wear the chains, no doubt but you may meet with many ladies to enslave you, more deserving than

JENNY LUTESTRING.

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*The Young Linen-Draper's Reply.*

*Dear Miss,*

THE receipt of your Letter gave me much satisfaction, as it was a pleasure I never before experienced; but must confess, on perusing the contents, I found myself much chagrined and disappointed, as I vainly imagined what I had wrote, and conscientiously thought to be the purest dictates of my heart, would be implicitly believed so by every one else; but am now convinced of my error, and acknowledge myself indebted to you only for the discovery; but, notwithstanding this confession, I hope to convince you by my perseverance, that I still continue to prefer, and ever shall, a life of bondage with you, to all the ideal charms of liberty. Permit me then, thou  
idol

idol of my soul, to repeat in the most tender and pure manner, my most ardent professions of esteem and love, that there is no other object on earth that appears to me desirable, but yourself; and that however fortune may please to smile on me through life, my happiness will be incomplete, till joined with you in the sacred bands of wedlock.

Deign then, my Charmer, to grant a favorable answer to my petition, relieve me from the anxiety I now feel, and restore me to happiness by accepting both the hand and heart of

WILLIAM DIAPER.

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*The Young Lady's Answer.*

Sir,

**I** Am really at a loss how to answer your last letter. Impressed with a sense of gratitude on the one hand for the very favorable opinion you seem to entertain of me; yet, on the other side, I dread giving my assent to your generous offers, not through any dislike to your person, morals, or connections, but only through fear that you should hereafter repent your bargain. However, Sir, permit me to repeat my former advice, of not being too hasty: time perhaps may produce a change in us both: and who knows but she, who now appears the most cold and insensible to the refined passion of Love, may in a short time be most forward to promote a passion she now treats with so much indifference?

Despair

Despair not then, while there are hopes still left, of obtaining her you are pleased to deem the object of your wishes, in the person of

JENNY LUTESTRING.

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*To a Lady, who had approved the Addresses of the  
Writer.*

*Madam,*

**Y**OUR condescension in allowing me to write to you during your stay at Brighthelmstone, has laid me under an obligation that I shall ever gratefully acknowledge. But though making one favor the foundation of asking another, may have the appearance of want of generosity, I cannot refrain from earnestly entreating that you will occasionally honor me with a few lines in reply.

Perhaps you may say, that a necessary regard to punctilios will not admit of your compliance: but permit me to observe, that there can be no reasonable ground for concealing the nature of our intercourse from the knowledge of the world, my pretensions being honorable, and not unfavorably received, either by yourself or your friends: a correspondence may therefore be maintained without any breach of propriety.

Believe me, Madam, you were mistaken in supposing that I should recover my tranquility in a short time after your departure. Every moment brings additional sorrow; and it is in vain that I exert my endeavours to divert my mind from the only object that it can contemplate with delight.

While

While you are happy in the society of agreeable friends, and partaking of those elegant amusements which are usual at Brighthelmstone at this season of the year, I am laboring under all the distress that it is possible for a human heart to experience. Where the greatest perfections of the mind are added to the most enchanting beauty, a single glance is sufficient to warm the cold blood of an anchorite into a quicker current. Can I then be free from alarms, while you are surrounded by persons of fashion, among whom there are many, that it would argue extreme folly were I to dispute with for superiority in those points by which female regard is supposed to be attracted?

However, if you will please to favor me with a letter, the pleasing hope will revive, that I hold some place in your esteem: but alas! I am terribly apprehensive that balls, card-assemblies, and other amusements that unite to fill up the circle of pleasure, exclude from your mind all recollection of

Madam,  
Your most faithful,  
and devoted Admirer,  
WILLIAM TREMBLE.

*The Answer.*

*Sir,*

**A**FTER a long debate with myself, I at length came to a resolution of complying with your request; though it would perhaps have been more prudent to have declined it. I am sorry you have  
given



given me reason to accuse you of hypocrisy, which is a vice of so hateful a nature, that the person who is guilty of it seldom fails to forfeit the esteem of those by whom he is detected. You insinuate, that you are apprehensive of being supplanted by a rival; and therefore you must entertain a most unworthy opinion of me, or have spoken a language foreign to your heart. After having accepted your overtures of marriage, can it be supposed that I would countenance those of another? If you believed me capable of such a conduct, you could not entertain the affection you profess.

The rhapsody about the perfections of the mind, &c. is certainly inconsistent with that part of your letter, where you represent me as a poor weak creature, in most violent danger of being seduced into the paths of indiscretion, by the allurements that are *SUPPOSED to attract female regard*. For my part, I know not what are stronger attractives to female regard, than good sense, probity, and honor; nor what characters we look upon with more disgust than those, which, in compliance with an absurd prejudice, insult us by unworthy suspicions.

It is true, I have been at balls, card-assemblies, the theatre, and, in short, have partaken of every amusement this place affords; and, what may appear very extraordinary to you, have found that my conduct has, in no instance, merited reproach.

Indeed, I am of opinion, that innocent recreations are necessary for promoting and preserving health; and that is an object we cannot neglect, without being guilty of ingratitude to the Author of our being. Such entertainments then, as tend to exhilarate the spirits, without having any dan-  
E. gerous

gerous effects upon the morals, may be enjoyed with advantage, provided we do not suffer them to obtain so great an ascendancy over our minds as to detach us from the more important duties of life. However, I will not pursue this serious strain, but proceed to an account of what I have seen during my stay in this part of the country.

Brighthelmstone stands on an eminence, commanding a view of the sea, and a finely variegated country to a great extent. On that part of the Steyne adjoining to the town, is a fine lawn, where the company walk morning and evening, while they are entertained by a good band of music supported by public subscription: this is a spot perhaps the most delightful in the kingdom. The road leading hence towards Steyning, affords a prospect astonishingly grand; here appears a range of hills, projecting in the boldest manner; and we behold the wilds of Kent and Sussex, and many miles of rich inclosures, seemingly in another region, so surprising is the height of the hills.

The majority of the inhabitants of this place are fishermen; and when the women are not engaged in household business, they employ themselves in repairing the nets belonging to the men; and thus employed, they really afford a very pleasing sight, being particularly neat in their appearance, and seemingly of vivacious and affable dispositions.

This town has a good market, constantly supplied with great plenty of the best provisions: but the mutton deserves particular mention; for being fed on the Downs, which afford a fine pasture, intermingled with diverse sorts of aromatic herbs,  
it

it receives a flavor more delicious than that of the sheep produced in any other part of England.

I remember to have somewhere read, that the remains of Druidical altars abound in the neighbourhood of Brighthelmstone; but I have not been able to learn where any of these vestiges of antiquity are to be seen.

I shall now conclude, with observing, that though I cannot answer for what change of disposition a few weeks may produce, yet I will not wilfully cause you any unhappiness, while I remain

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FANNY FIRM.

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*The Gentleman's second Letter.*

**I**NDEED, my dear Madam, your letter has relieved me from a state of the most insupportable affliction. I will candidly acknowledge, that I had apprehensions exceedingly alarming: but why should those doubts (allowing them to have no just foundation) give rise to your displeasure? Had you made a declaration in my favor, or intimated a warm partiality towards me, I could not have made use of such expressions as those contained in my former letter, without offering you a direct affront. But fearing you might have permitted my addresses, rather in compliance to the advice of your friends, than from your own judgment, I could not but be exceedingly anxious, lest so inestimable a jewel should become the prize of some other of your numerous admirers. However, all the clouds that obscured my view to happiness

pinels are now dispersed. The concluding lines of your letter convey a meaning, that I could not say I was at a loss to interpret, without being guilty of the most palpable affectation. I have learnt that you mean to set out for London tomorrow; and I must intreat, that you will permit me to wait upon you the following day, to declare with how much veneration I am,

Dear Madam,

Your ever obliged and devoted

WILLIAM TREMBLE.

*From a Debauchee to a Married Woman.*

THE short conversation of last night was indeed, my dear Madam, infinitely the most agreeable that I was ever engaged in: one unfortunate circumstance, however, occurred; I mean the hurry and agitation of my spirits, which rendered me incapable of giving an adequate force of expression to those tender sentiments which your exquisite charms have inspired.

Though I admit personal attractions to have great force, yet I am conscious that I could bid defiance to the charms of a mere beauty: but when the most enchanting features receive animation from the most brilliant wit, the greatest quickness of conception, and delicacy of sentiment, their power becomes wholly irresistible.

Be assured, Madam, that I have a heart susceptible of the tenderest impressions of love: but of this I was not sensible till you gave the death-wound

wound to all my happiness. Since you have reduced me to this miserable situation, can you be so cruel as to deny me some relief?

Love is fertile in invention, and defies all difficulties. A thousand stratagems may be devised for meeting without the least danger to your reputation, which is, and ever will be, more dear to me than my own life. Though my passion is violent, it is of so delicate a nature that I can never treat you with disrespect, or offer you an intentional affront.

I shall now only add, that you may rest firmly assured of my preserving the most inviolable secrecy; and that I will act with so much caution, as to preclude every possibility of such consequences arising, as may cause you to regret having appointed an interview with, Madam,

Your most devoted Slave,

LORENZO.

*The Lady's Reply.*

Sir,

I Have ever considered it as a part of my duty to treat those who appear to be my husband's friends with that complaisance and respect which is due to the character of every gentleman. But there are some men whom I am now convinced it is dangerous to engage with in familiar conversation; and it is a misfortune peculiar to my sex, to be under the necessity of acting under a continual restraint, lest they should encourage profligate characters to insult them with such proposals as

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you

you have made to the woman, who equally despises your vanity, and abhors your wickedness; which would be sufficiently enormous, were it not aggravated by treachery to your friend.

I mean not to expose your folly to my husband, because I know not but that, while under the impulse of sudden passion, he might yield to a tyrannical custom, and give the man who had meditated his dishonor, and the ruin of his domestic happiness, the opportunity of adding murder to ingratitude and treachery.

I well know you absurdly imagine, that your licentious manners serve to ingratiate the favor of women: perhaps they may recommend you to such women as you have been used to associate with: but be assured, that your intercourse with the abandoned part of the sex, must necessarily so degrade your mind, that you can form no idea of the reverence that is due to that virtue you foolishly imagined you had power to expel from the breast of her who holds in contempt and detestation such abandoned characters as the man to whom she now recommends to pursue the paths of honor, as the only means of obtaining the most substantial happiness that this life can afford.

ELIZA.

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*From a Young Tradesman to a Neighbour's Daughter, soliciting her in Marriage.*

*Madam,*

**Y**OU may be surprised that I should take this method of declaring my sentiments when the friendly terms on which I live with your nearest relations,



relations, give me such frequent opportunities of engaging you in a particular conversation. The truth, in short, is, that I have many times determined to disclose my mind, but when at the point of entering upon the subject, my resolution has constantly deserted me. Such is the influence of your charms, that the moment you appear, all my faculties are absorbed in admiration; my frame is shook with an universal tremor; and by endeavouring to conceal the agitation of my spirits, I but add to my confusion, and become still more ridiculous.

Some lovers would improve the advantage of having free access to an admired object; but it is my misfortune to want that share of confidence which would contribute to my peace of mind, and, perhaps, facilitate the attainment of my desires.

If you have any previous engagement, or an unconquerable objection to my person, I will immediately decline all pretensions to your favor: but because I affect not a fashionable gallantry, let me entreat you not to suppose my passion the less fervent or sincere.

If I am so happy as to obtain your permission, I will submit my proposals to the consideration of your friends, and endeavour to obtain their concurrence to our union: and I shall now conclude with a solemn promise, that, to contribute towards your happiness shall ever be the principal care of him who now presumes to subscribe himself,

Madam,

Your most passionate  
and respectful Admirer,

FREDERICK NICHOLLS.

*The*

*The Lady in Reply to the above.*

*Sir,*

I Received your letter, and was at no loss to determine in what manner I should reply. I must confess myself obliged by the favorable opinion you entertain of me, and at the same time assure you, that the proposals you make cannot possibly be accepted. I do not say this, because I am already under engagements of the nature you allude to, but because a part of your conduct threatens all that can prove subversive of domestic happiness. But, Sir, I mean to be plain, that we may understand each other, without continuing the correspondence. The reprehensible part of your conduct then, is an attachment to gaming: your propensity to this scandalous and destructive practice, was not known in our family till within these few weeks; within which time you cannot but have observed, that my father and brother have taken unusual pains to engage you to spend your evenings at our house; and to this they were induced by a desire of detaching you from your dissolute companions: but they have now relinquished the hopes of succeeding; for they have with much concern observed, that after taking leave of our family, you have, for some time past, gone to a neighbouring tavern, which is notoriously a receptacle for gamblers, sharpers, and cheats of every denomination; and, I fear, that the imprudent conduct I am speaking of has become so habitual, that their influence will be insufficient to convince you of the necessity of a reformation.

I beg,

I beg, Sir, you will not make a second application; and assure you that my resolution is unalterable. Perhaps, I have expressed myself with too much freedom: if you think so, I beg you will attribute it to my condor, and deem it as proceeding from a desire of assigning a competent reason for rejecting your proposal.

I am Sir,

Your obliged humble Servant,

MARIA SELKIRK.

*The Lover refutes the Suspicion of his being addicted to the Vice of Gaming.*

*Dear Madam,*

**B**E assured, I am perfectly innocent of what is alledged against me: but I will immediately proceed to an explanation. It is true, that I have of late been many times at the tavern you mention; but when you learn on what motive, you will, I am confident, esteem me deserving of commendation rather than censure.

You are not ignorant, Madam, that a young gentleman, the son of one of my foreign correspondents, has resided some weeks at my house. This youth, though possessed of an excellent heart, has some considerable foibles, one of which is, a fondness for scenes of gaiety and dissipation. After returning from the theatres, or other places of public amusement, I fortunately discovered that it was his constant practice, to join a set of abandoned scoundrels, with whom he spent the  
greatest

greatest part of the night at the billiard-table. I expostulated with him on the dangerous connections he had formed, but found him so strongly prepossessed in favor of his new companions, that all the arguments I was able to enforce, were not strong enough to convince him of their iniquitous practices. I communicated the matter to a friend, and he proposed accompanying me to the tavern in the evening. There is reason to suppose, my presence restrained our young Batavian from hazarding any considerable sums. We several times repeated our visits, but, from our entire ignorance of the game, were unable to detect the villainy which we suspected; at length, the sharpers applied to my friend, to become an accomplice in their scheme, he having, by an ingenious stratagem, caused them to mistake his person for that of a famous gambler, who, he learnt they were unacquainted with, by listening to their private conversation. This, and other circumstances enabled us to detect them in the actual practice of a number of infamous artifices for robbing the inexperienced youth of a very large sum, which in the openness of his heart he had informed them, was all that remained of what his father had allowed for his support, during a residence of three years in this country: and it was only a few hours before the receipt of your letter, that the whole fraternity were apprehended and taken before a magistrate, who compelled them to refund near five hundred pounds.

Having thus removed the cause of her objection, I cannot but flatter myself in the pleasing hopes of being admitted to the honor of visiting my dear Maria in the character of a lover. I have  
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already declared my sentiments to your father, and obviated the prejudices he had conceived in consequence of my attendance at the tavern. He does not disapprove my proposal; but says, he has so entire a confidence in your discretion, that he will attempt to put no constraint upon your will; and your brother has kindly promised to intercede with you in my behalf. On this encouragement, I mean to take the liberty, with your permission, of waiting upon you at seven o'clock to-morrow evening, and in the mean time, permit me to say, that I am, with unalterable affection,

Madam,

Your most obedient Servant,

FREDERICK NICHOLLS.

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*The Young Lady's Answer.*

Sir,

MY father has permitted me to say, that I may accept your visits; in consequence of which, I shall be glad to see you to-morrow evening.

I am, Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

MARIA SELKIRK.

*From*

*From a Young Tradesman who had much improved himself though Extravagance, to a rich Farmer's Daughter in Yorkshire.*

*Madam,*

**W**HEN at last York meeting, I craved the honor of your hand at the assembly which, I flatter myself, you cannot have forgot. The favor I asked, you readily granted with the most obliging condescension, and I then enjoyed the happiness of having you for my partner during the whole evening. The dances being ended, you suffered me to wait on you home, during which time I made you acquainted with my name, business, and connections in life, to which I had the vanity to think you seemed to listen with some degree of attention and approbation. At our parting, you granted me permission to visit you the ensuing day, which liberty I was unhappily deprived of, by receiving the news, that very evening, of the death of a very near relation in London. This unfortunate event rendered my immediate presence absolutely necessary, and in consequence of which I set out very early the next morning for town.

Believe me, Madam, I had a most melancholy journey, as the business I was going on was, in itself, of a very disagreeable nature ; but what was ten thousand times worse, it deprived me of the opportunity of seeing the dearest object of my wishes, and for whom I had conceived the most tender passion. Judge then, Madam, the anxiety of mind I must undergo, at being so suddenly torn from



from every thing I held dear and valuable, and at the same time knew not what unfavorable construction might be put on my abrupt departure, you not being apprized of the real cause. I determined then, on my arrival in London, to embrace the earliest opportunity of supplicating a pardon, which I flatter myself, now you are made acquainted with the case, you will not scruple to grant.

I hope, ere long, to have the happiness of seeing you again at York, and shall think every moment an age, till I am once more blessed with a sight of your adorable person.

In the mean time, Madam, suffer me to make a tender of my future services, by offering you a heart wholly devoted to yourself, and incapable of deceit. If a passion of the purest and most exalted nature, be worthy your regard, I think I may justly claim some share in your esteem.

Permit me then, to hope, if some one more happy than myself has not already engaged your affections, which gracious heaven forbid! that my utmost wishes will be crowned with their desired success; and my life and fortune shall be wholly devoted to the happiness of your's. Suffer me then to hope for your kind compliance; and relieve me from the most torturing suspense, by the favor of a few lines of approbation; in anxious expectation of which, I remain

Your devoted Slave and Admirer,

FREDERICK CARELESS,

*The Young Lady's Reply.**Sir,*

**W**ITH much surprize, I received your letter, and often debated with myself whether it would be prudent in me to answer it. As to my behaviour at the assembly, in suffering myself to become your partner in a dance, it is nothing more than what is customary in the place, and might have happened to any indifferent person as well as yourself; therefore I can see no right you have to claim any liberties on that account.

As to your pretended passion, I conceive it to be nothing more than words of course, and what might naturally be expected from any gentleman in a similar situation; indeed, I think no woman can be weak enough to believe any gentleman could be so deeply smitten at first sight, and should rather imagine he had something more to interest him in the pursuit than mere love; and, Sir, as I would wish to be ingenuous with you, I must confess I have received some intimation of your design: in plain terms, Sir, it has been whispered through the City of York, by some persons who saw you at the assembly, and pretended to be well acquainted with your real situation in life; that your father, a few years since, left you possessed of a very considerable fortune, and also the business by which he had acquired it; since which time, you had led a most dissolute life, and thus by practising all the fashionable vices of London, have reduced your fortune to a very low ebb, and that unless you can retrieve yourself by marriage, a bankruptcy is inevitable.

These,

These, Sir, are the charges exhibited against you, and as you intimate a design of re-visiting me at York, I must beg leave to decline the intended honor, till such time as the above charges are refuted.

I am, Sir,

Your well wisher,  
and humble Servant,

MARGARET CAUTIOUS.

*The Young Tradesman's Reply.*

*Madam,*

**T**H E receipt of your letter, with the charges therein contained against me, I now consider as the happiest event in my life, as it has brought me to a state of reason, to which before I was an utter stranger. I have long been in a lethargy, from which, by your kindness, I am now perfectly awaked, and can justly say with the Poet, "Through all the roving pleasures of my youth, where nights and days seemed all consumed in joy; where the false face of luxury displayed such charms as might have shaken the most holy hermit, and made him totter at his altar, I never knew one moment's peace like this."

To you, Madam, I acknowledge myself indebted for this wonderful change. To you then will I appeal as judge in my behalf, and after a candid hearing, will submit myself to any sentence you shall think proper to inflict.

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In the first place, Madam, I confess, that being of a volatile disposition, and hurried on by the passions of youth, I have suffered myself to be too often led into the fashionable follies and extravagances with which this place abounds; but that I never yet quitted the paths of honor. That in consequence of my irregular mode of living, I must also confess, that my fortune is considerably diminished, but so distant from a bankruptcy, that after discharging all my debts, I shall have a sufficiency left to maintain a genteel independency.

The last accusation is, that my fortune being greatly reduced, I had no other alternative, than retrieving it by marriage. This charge I have before refuted, by proving that my affairs were not in so alarming a situation as was generally imagined; but I will not absolutely deny that I ever entertained a thought of that nature; on the contrary, I conceived it to be a very eligible plan, and have often mentioned it as such, but never attempted to put it into execution.

With regard to yourself, Madam, I protest in the most solemn manner, that I never was actuated by any other motive than pure and disinterested love.

On your first entering the assembly room, I was struck with the charms of your person, and determined from that moment to make you an offer of my heart. During the course of the evening, I was convinced that the mental qualities you possessed were equal to the beauty of your person, which, added to a most enlivening conversation, an infinite fund of wit, and a most engaging disposition, all conspired to compleat the conquest.

Thus,

Thus, Madam, as I have given a true state of the case, I hope I shall receive my pardon, signed by your delicate hand, by the return of the post, after which I may once more be permitted to visit York, and be blest with the sight of my adored Fair One.

Permit me, dear Madam, to subscribe myself with the utinost sincerity, your faithful Lover,

CHRISTOPHER CARELESS.

*The Lady's Reply.*

Sir,

I Cannot but acknowledge, that in your last letter there breathes an air of sincerity, which seems to carry conviction with it, and which leads me to hope, that your boasted reformation is built on a solid foundation, and able to withstand the vast stream of fashionable dissipation, with which it is environed. How happy then shall I think myself, in being instrumental to so great a change ; at the same time that I rejoice with you on your escaping the horrid precipice, from which you was in imminent danger of plunging into irretrievable ruin ! I cannot but lament the depravity of human nature, that the vices and follies of our fellow-creatures, instead of exciting pity, are artfully related in a private assembly, and thence propagated throughout every polite circle in town, with the most exaggerating circumstances ; so that a gentleman, who by a run of ill luck happens to lose a few guineas at a card or billiard table,

and the story becoming once known, stands a chance of being accused of mortgaging his estates, being reduced to poverty, turning fortune-hunter, which scheme miscarrying, goes upon the highway, and at last suffers an ignominious death as a felon; and all this perhaps proceeds from no other cause, than a sudden disappearance having furnished these reputation-murderers with matter sufficient to exercise their fertile imaginations, and gratify their envious dispositions with the most malicious slander.\* This, Sir, might probably have been your case, had you not received timely notice, and thereby vindicated your reputation and honor, which I think you have done so much to the credit of yourself and friends, that if you persevere in your design of re-visiting York, you may be assured of a hearty welcome, from

MARGARET CAUTIOUS.

\* Perhaps there is but too much of truth in this picture. Young people, who would wish to avoid the paths of vice, and steer clear of the possibility of becoming a prey to the malignity of envious tongues, will do well to read a work published in weekly numbers, called "*THE MALEFACTOR'S REGISTER, or New Newgate and Tyburn Calendar*:" which, having recounted the particulars of every remarkable trial since the commencement of the present century, to the *present time*; with the lives of all the notorious malefactors; each trial is concluded with such remarks as are acerbably calculated to impress on the mind ideas of true religion, and warm the heart to the practice of virtue. --For these reasons we recommend it, as a most valuable book for families; to which it will be the more acceptable, as every indelicate expression, so common in works of this nature, is carefully avoided.

It is fully completed in only fifty Numbers, price six-pence each, embellished with a neat variety of entire new Copper-Plates. The whole, however, may be had neatly bound in five Vols. price 1*l.* 10*s.*

N. B. The public should be careful to order *The Malefactors Register*; or *The New Newgate and Tyburn Calendar*.

From



*From a Young Gentleman of Fortune, to a reputable Tradesman's Daughter, persuading her to elope from her Parents, who had refused their Consent to her Marriage with the Young Gentleman, of whom she was passionately fond, and was endeavouring to force her to marry the Son of a neighbouring Tradesman, whom she utterly detested.*

*Dear Miss,*

IT is impossible for words to describe the tortures that I daily undergo, on being deprived of the sight of the loveliest of her sex. Oh! my dear Fanny, did you but know the miserable state of a despairing lover, surely you could not hesitate one moment, but fly into the arms of him whose life is entirely devoted to Love and you.

Perhaps, at this very moment, my dearest Girl may be forced for ever from my sight, and obliged, by the cruelty of an unrelenting parent, to give her hand to my most detested rival. Dreadful idea! If that fatal event has not already happened, let me conjure my amiable Girl, with all the tenderest eloquence of a most passionate admirer, to relieve me from this most dreadful suspense, by flying instantly from impending ruin; and rely on the protection of him who is ready to sacrifice his life for her sake.

I flatter myself, my Dear, that you are already convinced my views are wholly disinterested, as fortune has amply provided for our future support: then why should we waste a moment of our time, by deferring a happy union of souls so perfectly formed for each other? The plan, my Dear,

Dear, I have adopted for your deliverance and my happiness, is of such a nature as cannot fail of success; and however unkind your father may at present appear, I have no doubt but a little time will convince him of his error, and remove the prejudices he has unhappily conceived against me. Grant then, my Love, a favorable answer to my wishes, and thereby perfect the happiness of

Your most faithful Admirer,

VALENTINE TRUELOVE.

*The Lady's Answer.*

Sir,

**N**OTwithstanding I acknowledge the very favorable opinion I entertain of you, and what is still more, that you are the only man with whom I could be happy; yet, Sir, the obligations I am under to my parents, for their tender care of me from my infancy to the present time, are so many, and of such a nature, that nothing ever shall induce me to swerve from my duty, though at the expence of my own happiness. My father, cruel as I now think him, in endeavouring to force my hand to the man I most abhor, will, I hope, in time relent, and pity his unhappy daughter.

As, Sir, I have now declared my determined resolution, never to make my parents unhappy by a neglect of the duty I owe them, consequently I cannot by any means consent to your  
scheme

scheme of elopement; therefore must entreat you not to say any more on that subject; but as I am at present denied the pleasure of seeing you, I hope you will embrace every opportunity that offers of writing, and which you may depend shall not be neglected on my side.

This is the only consolation I can possibly expect or enjoy in my unhappy situation, and even this must be managed with the utmost prudence and caution; as, should a letter once be intercepted, it would probably not only increase my present misery, by a closer confinement, but utterly prevent our future correspondence.

And now, Sir, let me prevail on you to reconcile yourself to your present situation, indulging yourself with the pleasing hopes of the time coming, when we shall yet be happy. Of this you may be assured, that though I never will be instrumental to my parents unhappiness, by marrying, contrary to their inclination, the man they shall disapprove; yet, on the other hand, no power on earth shall ever force me to a union with the man I detest: that I will ever remain a stranger to the happiness of a married state, or enjoy the object of my choice: and, finally, that no man but yourself shall ever receive the hand or heart of

FANNY PLEASANT.

*From*

*From a Young Gentleman, on a Quarrel which had happened with a Lady to whom he had long paid his Addresses.*

*Madam,*

**A**FTER the long and agreeable intimacy which had subsisted between us, how my unlucky stars created a breach last night I know not; but when I awaked this morning, and reflected on the transactions of the preceding evening, how was I shocked at the very idea of offending the dear Girl I adore!

Stung with the keenest remorse for my past offences, I determined instantly to expiate my fault by a candid confession of it, and a sincere repentance.

Accept then, dear Madam, this confession as an atonement for the enormity of my crimes, and admit my future zeal and devotion at the shrine of your beauty to obtain my pardon; so shall I hope hereafter to be made partaker of such joys as the warmest language but faintly can express.

Deign then, thou Goddess of my idolatry, to hear my earnest prayers and supplications, and relieve me from the excruciating pangs I now feel, by absolving all past offences, and thereby restoring to happiness the now miserable

TIMOTHY TELLTRUTH.

*The*

*The Lady's Reply.*

Sir,

AS the only method to obtain forgiveness for our sins, is by an open confession and true repentance, I know not how far I might be led to forgive, could I believe your repentance sincere; but, Sir, I much fear, that you finding forgiveness so easily obtained, might shortly be tempted to fall into the same errors again, and thereby become ruined irretrievably.

Therefore, Sir, as I have a sort of regard for you still left, I think it most prudent to defer granting an absolute pardon 'till your future behaviour has proclaimed you worthy of it. If then you think my forgiveness worth procuring, you will instantly set about a reformation, which, once perfected, will be sure to obtain a general pardon, and total oblivion for all past offences committed against

SABINA LOFTY.

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*from a Young Gentleman of Fortune, to an amiable Young Widow in the same Neighbourhood, who, a short Time since, had been released from a Life of Misery, by the Death of a most dissolute and abandoned Husband.*

Madam,

FROM my connections in the neighbourhood of your residence, you cannot suppose me quite ignorant of the many amiable virtues you possess, nor of the charms of your person. Those charms,

INSTRUCTIONS, &c.

charms, Madam, have attracted my admiration a thousand times, and I have cursed the wretch who was possessed of such a jewel without knowing the value of it: but Heaven has at length thought fit to remove him, and left you, the brightest gem in the creation, as a blessing to some more deserving object.

Permit me, Madam, with the utmost respect, to subscribe my name in the list of your admirers, and should I be so happy as to be thought an object worthy of your regard, I should deem myself the happiest of mortals.

Elate with such a heavenly prospect, suffer me, dear Madam, to tender you a heart which has long languished for you, who are the sole object of my love. Deign then to pity your devoted slave, and grant him the privilege of visiting your adored person; when, if I do not convince you of the purity of my passion, discard me for ever from your sight, and thereby render me the most miserable of the human race.

In anxious suspense, I wait to receive my doom from your fair hand; till when, suffer me to subscribe myself,

Your most passionate Admirer,

D. TRUSTY.

At the conclusion of these Letters on the subject of Love, it may not be improper to observe, that there is lately published a most valuable Work, called the "English Letter-Writer, or, Whole Art of General Correspondence"; by the "Rev. George Brown, Master of Arts", which, for the variety of its contents, is unequalled by any book of the kind.

We would therefore recommend *Brown's Letter-Writer*, as the best extant for general purposes; while we trust that our own will be found equally amusive and instructive to those for whom use it has been more immediately compiled: and we hope this candid recommendation of the work of another will be no discommendation of our own. Liberal minds will acknowledge merit wherever they discern it.

CONVER-



# CONVERSATIONS

ON THE SUBJECTS OF —

## LOVE and MARRIAGE.

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### CONVERSATION the FIRST.

*Between a Lady of Fortune and her Son.*

*Lady.* **Y**OU know, Frederic, with what fondness I have regarded you during your childhood and youth; what attention I have paid to your education; and how truly I have considered your interest as the dearest part of my own.

*Son.* I am not insensible, Madam, to the kindness you have shewn me from my birth to the present hour:—but to what purpose does this observation tend?

*Lady.* I need not tell you that the death of your father was such a drawback on the happiness of my life, as no subsequent event has been able to make good; and your good sense will inform you, that if I have any tolerable chance of comfort for the remainder of my days, it must result from the seeing you happy.

*Son.* Once more, Madam, I must beg you will inform me what you have in view;—I have not been accustomed to disobey your commands.

G

*Lady.*

*Lady.* Marriage, my dear Frederic, is one of the first and most important concerns of human life:—but, before I proceed, may I hope that your heart is disengaged?

*Son.* The question is a sudden one, Madam; but suppose that it were not?

*Lady.* Then I should be sorry that I had said a word on the subject; for I would no more wish to control your inclinations, than I would that my own should submit to the unreasonable will of another.

*Son.* You are ever generous, Madam,—let me beg that you would speak your mind with freedom.

*Lady.* Miss Silvester of Harley-Place is——

*Son.* A most accomplished young lady, and——

*Lady.* Hear me out son.—Miss Silvester is not less celebrated for her beauty, than for her wit; and, what is above every other consideration, she possesses all the excellencies of the heart. Her fortune I say nothing of, capital as it is; though that would be an object of prime consideration with many a mother.

*Son.* The observation is too true; but there are few such mothers as mine. I wish, for the honor of human nature, there were thousands of half her merit.

*Lady.* I did not ask for a compliment, Son; but I thank you for it.—Miss Silvester is——

*Son.* Let me spare you, Madam, all that you have to say—Miss Silvester is one of the most amiable of her sex—You wish me to visit her—I obey—but there is no merit in this obedience; for I have long loved her with the utmost warmth  
of

of affection; and have only to beg your pardon for concealing this circumstance from your knowledge.

*Lady.* It is easy to pardon, when the offence, if it may be called such, meets with our fullest approbation: but I could wish you had sooner mentioned this circumstance, as it would have added to the happiness of my life.

*Son.* Diffidence, and fear of offending, alone prevented my doing it: but I hope the present knowledge of our affection (for it is *mutual*) will contribute to the lengthening that valuable life.

*Lady.* All obliging as you ever were, Frederick this compliment comes with peculiar grace. I should suppose a young lady, flattered by her lover, could not be better pleased than a mother thus politely treated by her son. You will visit Miss Silvester, and—

*Son.* Our hearts, Madam, perfectly accord.—We wanted but an opportunity of making you the confident of our love. Happy Son! Happy Daughter! I hope I shall soon say, in having such a confident.

*Lady.* Let me add to your happiness, by adding, that Sir Timothy is as eager for his dear daughter's marriage, as I am for yours; and that we have concerted how we should bring about the match with the least violence to your inclinations; and with the strictest regard to the delicacy of the young lady; but since you are already on terms of such intimacy, less ceremony will be necessary.

*Son.* Expedite, I beseech you, Madam, the happy day: and thereby add to all the obligations you have laid on your Son.

## CONVERSATION the SECOND.

*Between a young Lady and her Lover.*

*Lover.* I HAVE long wished for the opportunity of engaging you in conversation; and since, Madam, —

*Lady.* Bless me, Sir! I cannot conceive your meaning. Your intimacy in this family gives you continual opportunities of conversing —

*Lover.* That I acknowledge, Madam: but the presence of a third person has hitherto confined me to general subjects, when my sentiments claimed the attention of yourself in particular.

*Lady.* You must excuse me, then, if I retire, for it will not be prudent in me to listen to what you think improper to be heard by a third person.

*Lover.* For heaven's sake favor me with your attention for a few minutes: and be assured, Madam, that I mean not to violate the respect that is due to your character. All my hopes of future happiness depend on your determination to encourage or discountenance my pretensions. I will not offend your delicacy, by urging this matter farther at present:—all I now have to request is, that you will give me room to hope—

*Lady.* Your behaviour, Sir, is so extremely mysterious—

*Lover.* Oh! my dear Maria, you must forgive me if I say, you are now guilty of a little dissimulation. Have not my eyes expressed the language of my heart? How often, when I have half suppressed a rising sigh, has my Maria kindly en-

endeavoured to relieve my agony, by some more than usually familiar expression. She is more endeared to me by such tenderness; for, even admitting the cause to be unknown, the benevolent wish to afford a moment's alleviation to distress, cannot fail to excite gratitude and esteem.

*Lady.* I pretend to no claim upon your gratitude, Sir; but I shall always think myself happy in your esteem. However, I am still ignorant of the purpose you have in view.

*Lover.* My view, then, is to make amends for the misery I have so long suffered, by securing to myself the greatest happiness this life can afford. To be plain, Madam, I have long entertained a passion for you that is incapable of increase or decay: and if I shall prove to be so fortunate as to obtain your hand in marriage, it will become my duty, as it is already my inclination, to reward your generous condescension by an unremitting endeavour, to obviate every circumstance that shall threaten to interrupt the harmony of the marriage state.

*Lady.* Sir, I will candidly acknowledge that I have no partiality towards another: but you are not thence to infer that I make a declaration in favor of yourself.

*Lover.* Thus, on my knees, permit me to thank you for this inestimable favor.

*Lady.* Do not deceive yourself, Sir, remember, I said I had not declared in your favor. There are those to whom I am bound in the strongest ties of gratitude and duty; and be assured, that I will never encourage the addresses of a man who has not the sanction of their full approbation.

*Lover.* I will to morrow wait upon, and fully explain myself to your father; who, I am happy to say, honors me so far as to rank me among the number of his particular friends. In the mean time, Madam, I must beg you to believe that it will be impossible for me to discharge any of the duties of life with so much satisfaction, as those which will contribute to render your happiness complete. And now, Madam, I must humbly take my leave.

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CONVERSATION the THIRD.

*Between a Father and his Daughter.*

*Fath.* **T**HE infirmities of age, my dear Harriet, heavily oppress me; and though to part with a daughter so tenderly and so deservedly beloved, would be a circumstance infinitely more afflicting than to part with life, were it not for the consideration that her happiness—

*Daugh.* Pardon me, dear Sir, for the interruption; and let me beg you will no longer indulge these melancholy ideas.

*Fath.* You are mistaken, my Dear, if you suppose that I indulge melancholy, because I express a serious concern for promoting your well-fare: therefore be not distressed; but rest assured, that I cherish the hope of living, to enjoy greater happiness than I have known for many years.

*Daugh.* Oh! Sir, you now relieve me from a great anxiety; for the solemnity of your manner gave



gave me terrible apprehensions that something had happened to afflict you.

*Fath.* No, Harriet: the common accidents of life cannot disturb my repose, while I am possessed of your tender regard, which has been, and I hope, will continue to be, the support of my declining years. But I have now a matter to communicate that will claim your particular attention. Mr. Williamson has assured me, that he entertains a great affection for you, and has made offers of marriage. I declined a definitive answer, which I can only give when you have told me whether you approve, or are averse to the alliance; for, as I have often intimated, though perhaps not in express terms, I mean not to put any restraint upon your inclination in a matter of this nature, where a mutual approbation will prove the strongest bond for insuring a lasting felicity.

*Daugh.* This generosity is too much. It is my duty to submit to your superior judgment. Let me but know your pleasure, and I will, in every instance, implicitly obey, however great the sacrifice.

*Fath.* I thank you, my Dear, for this proof of your duty. But do not suppose that I wish for an implicit obedience, unless such obedience perfectly accords with the sentiments of your heart. But I will more fully explain myself. I have observed that your behaviour to Mr. Morton has been perfectly easy and familiar, and that you have treated Mr. Williamson with formality and reserve. Now, though I have no material objection to urge against Mr. Morton, I must confess that I should rather approve of the other for a son-in-law. But in this case you are to decide:

and

and I particularly request that you will consult your own, rather than my inclination; for were I to influence you to a choice that you should afterwards regret, the remnant of my life would be passed in an uninterrupted scene of remorse and misery.

*Daugh.* Heaven forbid that I should so far degenerate from those principles in which I have been educated, as to prefer my own happiness to that of so tenderly indulgent a parent. Dear Sir, recall the power you have transferred to me of that parental authority, which it will ever be my greatest pleasure to obey.

*Fath.* Nay, my Dear, let us understand each other more clearly. Have you not a partiality for Mr. Morton?

*Daugh.* I have not, Sir, Believe me, marriage has not yet employed my thoughts. I wish but still to live with my kind pappa; to have no care but, by an innocent trifling, to add some pleasure in his hours of amusement, and to administer comfort in those of distress,

*Fath.* But I anxiously wish to see you established in life; and when that takes place, I shall think all my cares are at an end. If you are inclined to favor Mr. Morton rather than Mr. Williamson, let not what I have intimated in behalf of the latter, prove an obstacle to the continuance of his addresses.

*Daugh.* Mr. Morton, Sir, has made no overtures of the nature you allude to: we behave to each other with the familiarity that is usual among persons who have been acquainted from infancy. My reserve to Mr. Williamson, is in consequence of his having made a declaration of love;

love; for I should think myself unworthy to be called your daughter, could I be guilty of such disingenuity of conduct as to afford the least encouragement to a man wanting the essential merit of so revered a parent's recommendation.

*Fath.* Then, my Dear, he no longer wants that recommendation;—but if you have any other objection——

*Daugh.* I have none, Sir; but, on the contrary, I will freely confess that I have ever esteemed Mr. Williamson the most accomplished, and, indeed, the most deserving gentleman of my acquaintance.

*Fath.* A man of mean desert should not rob me of my Harriet. But we must now wave the subject; for our visitors are arrived.

#### CONVERSATION the FOURTH.

*Between a Guardian and his Ward.*

*Guard.* I HAVE observed, my dear Emily, that you have been unusually reserved of late: that you are not the sociable companion you used to be: that you avoid all agreeable intercourse; creep into holes and corners; and are, in a word, a very different creature from what you was before we went to Tunbridge. What can be the occasion of all this, my Dear?

*Ward.* Am I reserved, Sir?—Am I unsociable?—Do I creep into holes and corners?

These

These are strange charges, Sir. I hope I have done nothing to incur your displeasure.

*Guard.* Displeasure! my Dear. Nothing that my Emily does can ever displease me. She is incapable of real or intentional offence.—But I thought that something sat heavy at your heart, and was anxious to have relieved it; for a more liberal heart never expanded the human bosom.

*Ward.* Ah, Sir! you are too good. But I fear there is perverseness in that heart that will have but an ill claim to your generosity.

*Guard.* What mean you, my Love? only speak your sentiments with freedom, and you shall find how ready I will be to gratify every reasonable wish of your heart:—You shall find in me a second father.

*Ward.* I have always found one, Sir.—Though I have long lost my own father, I have never known the want of that endearing relation: and, from my earliest remembrance, have had a father, in every thing but the name.

*Guard.* Your father and I were *friends*, Emily; which would be a sufficient reason for my kindest protection of the daughter, her own merits out of the question. But to the purpose: I am sure that you are uneasy, and I more than half suspect the cause. Shall I be more explicit?

*Ward.* You need not, you need not, good Sir. I am sensible to all your kindness, and think your openness of behaviour a call upon my frankness.—In a word, Sir, I find myself very uneasy of late, without being well able to account for the cause of that uneasiness.

*Guard.* Love my Dear——

*Ward.* I know not what the passion means;

or,

or, if I now feel it, I have been hitherto a stranger to its impulses.

*Guard.* You saw Sir Thomas Savile at Tun-  
bride, my Emily.

*Ward.* I did Sir, but——

*Guard.* No qualifying, Emily—You regarded him with particular marks of attention, and more eyes than mine were upon you: in short, your best friends are of opinion, that you have a strong prepossession in favor of Sir Thomas.

*Ward.* I confess that he is a very agreeable gentleman——

*Guard.* And he thinks you a very agreeable girl, Emily——

*Ward.* Sir!

*Guard.* In a word, my Dear—I saw your attachment—I have conversed with Sir Thomas—he is greatly enamoured of you; and, if you have no objection, he will visit us on the most friendly terms to-morrow.

*Ward.* This, Sir, is compelling a confession—You are my guardian, my friend, and my father.—I submit to your will——

*Guard.* Say, rather, your own, Emily. In a word, your inclination shall be consulted; and happy am I to say that it corresponds with the wishes of your best friends, among the warmest of whom you may reckon your guardian.

*Ward.* Your kindness, Sir, has always prevented my wishes, and the present instance of it will engage my lasting gratitude.

## CARDS of COMPLIMENT

Proper to be used by LOVERS.

## I.

**M**R. Sharp's compliments to Miss Jansen, and he informs her, that he shall consider himself infinitely obliged, if she will alter her resolution of not going to the theatre this evening. He has fortunately learnt that her aunt means to retire immediately after the play; therefore, during the pantomime, Mr. Sharp will have an opportunity of pursuing the theme he entered upon last night, which he is exceedingly anxious to do, as all his hopes of happiness depend on the success of his overtures to the most amiable of her sex.

## II.

Miss Jansen has heard that love and reason are strangers; and she thinks Mr. Sharp may be classed among the devotees of the former, since he could think Miss Jansen capable of such gross impropriety of conduct, as to remain at the theatre after her aunt had retired, especially as the old lady is in so precarious a state of health. Mr. Sharp will not be an unwelcome guest at the tea table to-morrow afternoon.

## III.

The gentleman who will have the honor of delivering this, will answer such questions as Miss  
Story



Story may think proper to propose respecting Mr. Atkinson, who, assured that neither his moral character or temper can reasonably be objected to, solicits the honor of being permitted to wait upon Miss Story, in order to assure her of the fervency of his esteem.

## IV.

Sir Henry Lucas, who delivered Mr. Atkinson's card, spoke in very high, and, doubtless, in an equally just, strain of recommendation concerning Mr. Atkinson, who Miss Story respects as a gentleman of uncommon merit; and she has, therefore, the less scruple of candidly declaring that she is already engaged to a gentleman whom she has every reason to believe worthy her most particular esteem.

## V.

The indissoluble bond is to be tied to-morrow, between Miss Smithson and Mr. Harley, who unite to request the honor of Mrs. Blewitt's company at breakfast, in Hanover-Square, thence to proceed to St. George's church.

## VI.

Mrs. Blewitt will do herself the honor of attending Miss Smithson and Mr. Harley at breakfast to-morrow; and will consent to go to St. George's church, provided Miss Smithson and

H

Mr.

Mr. Harley will attend there while the indissoluble knot is tied between Mrs. Blewitt and Mr. Simpson, who have agreed to alter their day, that the same hour may give happiness to four of the best of friends.

## VII.

The compassionate terms in which Miss Knowles spoke of the distressed family, has greatly endeared her to Mr. Moore, who cannot see her without discovering something new in her character to approve and admire. He begs the inclosed trifles may be conveyed to the objects of her generous concern: and to say that he never parts with money with so little regret as when to alleviate affliction.

## VIII.

Mr. Moore's handsome present was received by the unfortunate people with the utmost gratitude. It was more than sufficient for present exigencies; and to the overplus Miss Knowles has made a small addition for the purpose of re-establishing them in their business,

## IX.

Mr. Short begs to dance with Miss Fretful to-morrow evening.

## X. Miss

## X.

Miss Fretful received Mr. Short's *laconic* epistle : but as he has of late so much pleaded the want of time, cannot but wonder that he can make it convenient to be at the masquerade. She must be excused dancing ; but Mr. Short will not be displeased to have the opportunity of a more agreeable partner.

## XI.

Mr. Fairfield's most respectful compliments wait upon Mrs. Saunders ; and he entreats that she will permit him to attend her this evening, that he may speak more explicitly on the subject of the alliance he had the honor to propose on Wednesday evening.

## XII.

When Mr. Fairfield made the proposal alluded to, Mrs. Saunders imagined that he only meant to indulge his usual jocularitv ; but finding him to have been serious, she assures him that she must entirely decline Mr. Fairfield's overtures.

## XIII.

The behaviour of Mr. Stamford, at the Opera last night, was too palpably insulting to pass unobserved by Miss Wright, who desires he will not repeat his visits in Stanhope-Street.

H 2

XIV. It

## XIV.

It was extremely painful to engage in conversation with another lady, when Miss Wright was present; but Mr. Stamford had recourse to that expedient, in obedience to Miss Wright's command; for he observed her uncle Morose sitting in the opposite box. This explanation he trusts will remove the prohibition in Miss Wright's card.

## XV.

Mr. Shatford begs to assure Miss Chadwick, that since he had the honor of attending her home on Tuesday evening, he has waited with the most anxious impatience for the promised appointment; and to request the favor of a line intimating when he may be favored with an interview.

## XVI.

To get rid of a very troublesome companion, Miss Chadwick was compelled, much against her inclination, to make a promise which she did not mean to fulfil. But, that she may have no further vexation from the same quarter, she declares that in this card she strictly adheres to truth.

## XVII.

Mr. Hallifax entreats the favor of Miss Steward's

ard's company to-morrow evening at a dancing-meeting in the Borough. He will wait upon her about seven o'clock.

## XVIII.

Mr. Hallifax is too much addicted to those vulgar assemblies at public-houses, under the name of dancing-meetings. To frequent them is disgraceful to a man: but renders the character of a woman infamous. If Mr. Hallifax is not engaged in business to-morrow evening, his company will be expected in Friday-Street.

## XIX.

Miss Whitaker is invited to accompany some of her friends to the Camp on Warley-Common; but she does not mean to go unless Mr. Hume will be of the party.

## XX.

Mr. Hume is exceedingly obliged to Miss Whitaker for her invitation, which he gratefully accepts: but he expects little happiness from viewing the camp, comparatively with what will arise from spending the day with Miss Whitaker.

## XXI.

The appointment for Vauxhall must be broke, so unfavorable is the change of weather. Mr.

H 3

Hall,

Hall, however, cannot dispense with Miss Wey's company, and will take the liberty of waiting upon her at six this evening.

## XXII.

Miss Wey will be glad to see Mr. Hall at any time after half past six this evening, being engaged at a neighbour's till that time.

## XXIII.

Mr. Hampston presents his compliments to Miss Snowden, and hopes for the honor of attending her to Kensington-Gardens on Saturday afternoon.

## XXIV.

Miss Snowden received Mr. Hampston's card, and expects his company between five and six on Saturday afternoon.



# FORMS of ADDRESS

FOR

## PERSONS IN LOVE.

TO this Division of our little Volume, it may be proper to premise, that nothing is so diffident as genuine Love: We therefore give the following detached sentences, that memory may supply proper phrases in cases where unassisted courage might be wanting.

---

Miss Jackson cannot but know that I have long had a partiality in her favor. If I have never yet expressed my sentiments, she must attribute it to the warmth of those feelings which it is not in language to describe.

I should have long before now, Madam, declared my passion, if I had been able to express the generous feelings of an honest heart.

Dear Clarinda, allow me to hope that the ardor with which I have long addressed you, and the repeated proofs I have given of the fervency of my

my passion, may plead in my behalf, and that I may at length presume so far on your goodness, as to expect the reward of all my sufferings. When will you name the happy day? When shall I prepare the licence and the ring?

I should never suppose that a Girl of my Betsey's delicacy could listen for a moment to the addresses of that odious G——. I am sure she never could entertain a thought so low: and I will therefore flatter myself that I stand well in her opinion.

Animated by the sincerest passion that ever warmed the human breast, permit me to make a full declaration of my Love, in terms as ardent as that Love is sincere: and let me not pray in vain, while I most earnestly solicit a return of your affection; of which I beg you will give me some convincing proof.

If I have offended, I most sincerely ask your pardon: but it was impossible to behold those pouting lips, and not wish to press them:—but if I have offended, I will not offend for nothing—this second kiss shall at once confirm my love, and seal my pardon.

Trust me, Harriot, I am in earnest—I must have an explicit answer—My passion is so fervent that it will no longer bear the pretty triflings of your sex. My sufferings have been extreme—Let your generosity put a period to them.

What

What can I say, Madam ? The more proofs I give of my Love, the more you seem to despise me. Is there never to be a period to my woes ?

No man ever loved woman as I love you. Reciprocity of affection can alone ensure our mutual happiness. If marriage be your view, as it is mine ; say so at once, and let us be happy.

Though your fortune, my Charmer, is superior to mine ; yet will I endeavour to repair the deficiency by every tender proof that I can give, that I prefer the happiness of my Charmer to my own.

Life without Love would be a burden : but to love, and not know that we are loved again, produces the most insupportable anxiety. Give me, then, some assurance that I am not wholly indifferent to you, and you will ease my breast of a thousand tortures.

Dearest of Girls be assured, that large as my fortune is, if it were ten times larger, I would with pride lay it at your feet. Take me, then, for life, and mould me to your wishes.—I shall never be happy till I can call you mine.

Open and frank as your nature is to every one else, why will you act with reserve to me alone ? —It is because I love you beyond all women, that I am to be treated with more severity than any other man ?

The diffidence attending genuine Love has hitherto prevented a declaration of my passion ; but the

the long-smothered flame will burst forth ; and I must obtain my Amelia's consent to make me happy, or miserable for life.

In a word, my ever charming Letitia, I love you beyond all expression ; but I would not make this free declaration of my passion, till I had obtained your father's consent :—On your decree, then, depends my future fate.

I have a favor to ask of you, Madam, that demands your private ear. Will you walk with me to the woodbine alcove, and I will explain myself more fully.

Ravished as my heart first was by your beauty, I am now still more charmed with your virtues. Your character rises on me every moment. An union with you, then, my loved Eliza, as it is the first wish of my heart, so it is the only mode by which that heart can be made happy. Accept my vows, and my life shall all be devoted to the promotion of your happiness.

We honest Tars, Nancy, speak our minds. If you will have me, say so. I will range the wide world to bring home treasure for my lovely Girl.

PROPER

## PROPER FORMS OF R E P L Y

F O R T H E

## F E M A L E S E X.

**Y**OU talk like a man of honor and a gentleman ;  
and therefore you have my consent to speak  
on this subject to my father.

There is so much of extravagance in your professions, that I really imagine, Sir, you mean to make me an object of ridicule. I insist that you affront me no more, and assure you that I will never consent to admit your address.

I have no doubt, Sir, of your expectations in life being very favorable ; but wealth cannot give happiness to those whose minds do not accord. Our tempers are so opposite that we could scarcely avoid disagreements on the most trifling occasions : to be connected in marriage, therefore, would give no prospect of content to either, but be productive of eternal remorse.

You say you will explain yourself. I wish for no explanation on the subject you have introduced. I shall continue to esteem you as a common acquaintance, but desire you will avoid attempting to engage me hereafter in a particular conversation ; for I am determined to give no countenance to your addresses.

I am

I am entirely at a loss, Sir, in what manner to reply. Could I be assured of your sincerity, I would not hesitate—but time must prove whether you deserve to be considered as such an adherent to truth as you represent yourself to be.

I cannot promise what you desire, without being guilty of manifest ingratitude and indiscretion. It is both my inclination and duty to consult my friends on all matters of consequence. However, I will acknowledge, that your greatest difficulty will be in obtaining their concurrence : for you will not be very obstinately opposed by me.

Your politeness, Sir, is more conspicuous than your sincerity ; and I cannot imagine that I possess any of those charms which you are pleased to attribute to me.

I have learnt from unquestionable authority, that you are already under engagements to Miss Johnson ; and am amazed at your effrontery in addressing me on this subject. I am determined to see you no more ; and if we may hereafter meet by accident, an unwillingness to attract observation only, will prevent my immediately withdrawing.

Be assured, Sir, that I will never engage in a clandestine correspondence : and your endeavouring to persuade me into so imprudent a measure, has given me no favorable opinion of your intentions.

I cannot



I cannot fix the day ; for I fear the day you refer to, will never arrive. Notwithstanding the fervency of your declaration, I have but too much reason to doubt your fidelity.

Indeed, my dear Harry, I am concerned that you should suppose the unhappy change of your fortune would alter my affection. No; I am convinced of your integrity; and to-morrow shall give you possession of your Harriot, and a greater fortune than you ever expected she would have the happiness of bestowing upon him she thinks the most deserving of her sex.

I cannot comply with your request : but hope you will not think I mean to affront you, Sir, when I declare, that I am prepossessed in favor of another.

Your behaviour, Sir, is extremely candid. As to your question respecting the licence and the ring, I confess they are necessary preliminaries ; but you know, if they are procured to-night, it does not follow, that I must be precipitated into the confines of marriage to-morrow.

As to the particular church, Sir, I am indifferent : though I must confess, that I wish not the ceremony to be made public ; therefore I would rather have the knot tied at some distance from town ; in one of the places where your residence has been long enough to give you the title of an inhabitant.

I have unfortunately countenanced your pretensions, which I now sincerely regret, and must  
I insist

insist that you decline your visits ; for your general character is too bad to admit of excuse or palliation ; and I fear you act from a confirmed habit of vice, rather than fall into casual indiscretions.

Your conduct since I have had the happiness of your acquaintance, has been unexceptionable in every respect : and if I decline a positive declaration of love, be assured that you are not indifferent to me.

I am sorry, Sir, to say any thing that I suppose will give you uneasiness ; but my father has, for reasons known, he says, only to himself, forbid the continuance of your visits.

I consent, Sir, to receive your addresses, on the condition that you obtain my Aunt's concurrence.

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*\* \* \* We know of no book of this kind, which has given Love-Letters in Verse ; and have therefore exhibited the following specimens, which we hope will be pleasing to our readers, and induce the public in general, always to recommend to their acquaintance, Mr. Freeman's Lover's New Guide, in preference to any other Book of this kind.*

LOVE

# LOVE LETTERS

## IN VERSE.

---

TO MARIA.

TO thee, my fair, these lines I dare impart,  
The faithful picture of a feeling heart.  
When first thy beauties caught my ravish'd view,  
I gaz'd, I wonder'd, and I lov'd thee too.  
From that dear moment all my peace was lost,  
And love and solitude my only boast: (charm,  
Sleep fled my eyes, nor books, nor friends could  
And my fond heart for thee alone was warm:  
Each beating pulse, and every rising sigh,  
But serv'd to tell Maria was not nigh:  
My shivering limbs, and half-dissolving frame,  
Proclaim'd the power of her all-charming name.  
Her charming name now vibrates in my ears:  
But ah! the lovely maid no more appears.

Born to the BATH, where belles and beaux  
appear,  
How little knows she of her Henry's care!  
How little feels the fierce corroding pains  
That rend his breast, and vibrate thro' his veins!  
Alas! she feels not how his mind is tost,  
And every hope, with dear Maria, lost!

Yet, if these lines her tender breast invade,  
 And, for one moment, warm the lovely maid,  
 Henry will hope to see the happy day,  
 When, blithe as morn, and fragrant as the May,  
 He to the temple shall Maria lead,  
 And in the wife shall lose the darling maid:  
 Then happy will his future days be spent,  
 And all his life be love, and sweet content.

HENRY.

---

The Lady's Answer.

**F**OND swain, thy letter is receiv'd,  
 And all its warm contents believ'd:  
 Maria knows, and feels by turns,  
 What flame in Henry's bosom burns:  
 For ah! she owns an equal flame,  
 Which till this hour she dar'd not name.

The Bath for me no charm will prove,  
 While absent from the man I love:  
 Nor belles nor beaux that flutter here,  
 Need give thy breast a moment's care:  
 That faithful breast I know is mine,  
 And to its ardors I resign.

Soon shall the flying steeds convey  
 From fools and cripples, sick and gay,  
 From fancied pains, and real woes,  
 And all the ills that FORTUNE knows,  
 Thy lov'd Maria to thy arms:  
 And then, if she has any charms,  
 Those charms may Henry boast his own,  
 Possess unrivall'd, and alone.

MARIA.

## TO LAVINIA.

**M**Y dear Lavinia let us stray,  
And revel in the sweets of May;  
Not May herself in beauty bright,  
Can give the shepherd more delight,  
As through the fragrant field he roves,  
Revolving o'er his happy loves,  
Than the dear mention of thy name,  
To him who owns an equal flame.

What, though our fortunes differ wide?  
My wealth, and all I boast beside,  
Are wholly thine : an honest heart,  
A temper liberal to impart ;  
A soul that feels for every woe ;  
And feeling, would relieve it too.  
Ample my store in wealth and land ;  
The master—all—at thy command ;  
A dearer treasure thou, than e'er  
Has yet engaged thy Damon's care.

Then come, dear Maid, in all thy charms,  
And yield thee to thy Lover's arms ;  
The church our holy vows shall seal ;  
My future life shall seek thy weal,  
Each passing day shall amply prove  
The warmth and ardor of my love.

Come then, Lavinia, let us stray,  
And revel in the sweets of May.

I 3

DAMON.

## The REPLY.

**W**HAT, my Damon, can I say?  
 How enjoy the sweets of May?  
 How shall I, a maiden poor,  
 Dare infringe on Damon's store?  
 If, indeed, by fortune blest,  
 I could give him ease or rest;  
 Could his gen'rous pains relieve;  
 Nothing that I had to give,  
 Should I think a price too high,  
 Damon's honest heart to buy.

But, as fortune has denied  
 Riches worthy of thy bride;  
 Let me now thy vows reject,  
 Professing Love, and warm respect;  
 Wishing still increase of wealth,  
 Encrease of honor and of health;  
 And every joy that life can give;  
 Though poor Lavinia still must live  
 Solemn and sad to make her moan,  
 And sigh unfriended and alone.

LAVINIA.

## To LAVINIA.

**N**O, my Lavinia, lovely maid!  
 Ah no! it never shall be said,  
 That paltry Fortune could destroy,  
 The promis'd harvest of our joy.

Whate'er I have,—myself, is thine;  
 To thee this moment I resign.  
 The licence and the ring are bought;  
 The rest is rapture but in thought.

Come



Come then, Lavinia, to my arms,  
And (flush'd in all thy native charms).  
Let fordid souls a match behold,  
Uninfluenced by the weight of gold.

Thus, bound by every grateful tie,  
With thee I'll live, with thee I'll die:  
Nor shalt thou e'er have cause to moan,  
Or sigh unfriended and alone.

DAMON.

---

The final Answer:

**W**HAT, my Damon, can I say?  
(The licence bought, and fix'd the day)  
To thee and Love I must resign;  
And may the hour that makes thee mine,  
Unusually propitious prove,  
To such a tired and honest Love.  
For me, I always will, as now,  
Obedience, grateful duty, vow:  
And if the warmest wish to please;  
Thy happiness to seek, thy ease;  
In sickness and in health to tend,  
A wife, a lover, and a friend;  
If these, my duties may repay,  
The obligations of this day,  
Then shall I think me wholly blest,  
And leave to heaven and thee the rest:  
For all my future life shall prove,  
My sense of gratitude and love.

LAVINIA.

From a GENTLEMAN to a LADY, on  
VALENTINE'S-DAY.

**L**ET my gentle Valentine,  
Now declare she will be mine ;  
Many a month and many a day,  
Have I pin'd my soul away ;  
Hoping each propitious hour,  
As it shew'd my *Jesse's* power,  
Would my *Jesse's* love declare,  
And bless me with the charming fair :  
But if *Jesse's* heart be froze,  
*Strephon* is not one of those,  
Who, to carking care a prey,  
Will consume the tedious day ;  
Or through midnight hours proclaim,  
His love for one unworthy dame.  
No—if the Girl I fondly love,  
Takes causeless pains her hate to prove ;  
Then will I seek another maid,  
Of truth and honor not afraid.  
I will be her's while she is mine,  
To her my heart I will resign  
And she shall be my VALENTINE.

The LADY'S ANSWER.

**N**O—*Jesse* is not one of those  
Whose hard unfeeling hearts are froze ;  
Who treat a lover with disdain,  
And feel a joy in giving pain ;  
Nor is she blind to *Strephon's* merit,  
But owns the Virtue's he inherits ;  
Nor has she strove her heat to prove,  
Tho' she has long conceal'd her love.

To

To try if he would persevere,  
And thereby prove his vows sincere.  
And since sincere he seems to be,  
Manly and Honest, frank and free,  
He need not seek another Fair,  
Nor waste his days in pining care;  
But if he feels his heart inclin'd  
To seek his Jesse, he may find  
This day, to prove her not unkind.

}

DIRECTIONS for HAPPINESS in the MAR-  
RIED LIFE.

**L**ET the man be all honor, the woman all love:  
He as bold as the lion, she fond as the dove:  
Let his arm still protect her from ev'ry disgrace,  
While her gratitude's wrote in each line of her face.  
In search of his fortune the husband may roam;  
But returning—his wife must be ever at home.  
In goodness and kindness O let her excel!  
Still as neat as a bride—not as gay as a belle:  
And both, if they wish to be happy for life,  
And avoid that great curse both to husband and wife:  
That curse of all curses we *jealousy* call,  
Must suppose that the passion exists not at all.  
In each other confiding, their bliss is their own,  
While HONOR shall blend ALL the VIRTUES in  
ONE!

A C R O S T I C.

L - ove, of all the generous passions;  
O - nly warms the gentle breast;  
V - ast and fond its inclinations,  
E - ver warring—ne'er at rest.

ANOTHER.

## A N O T H E R.

J - oin'd for life, why should I vex?  
 E - ver charming is the sex.  
 A - ll the powers of Love are theirs,  
 L - ove, and all its tender cares.  
 O - ft of slighted love I deem;  
 U - seless find I all my dream:  
 S - urely all my doubts are vain;  
 Y - e winds, I yield them back again!

## A N O T H E R.

C - ould you, cruel maiden, say  
 O - ught that should my breast alarm,  
 U - nless you mean to give away  
 R - espect as gen'rous as 'tis warm?  
 T - ry me by each holy test:  
 S - acred vows shall seal the rest.  
 H - appy could I hail the hour,  
 I - n which Hymen shews his power,  
 P - roud on your head each bliss to shower.

## A N O T H E R.

M - an was made to serve the sex;  
 A - ll the cares this life perplex,  
 R - ightly on his shoulders fall,  
 R - ightly he sustains them all.  
 I - n the course of love we find,  
 A - ll-engaging woman kind.  
 G - iven by Heav'n to smooth his care,  
 E - ver charming, kind, and fair.

REBUS,

## R E B U S.

**T**HE letter for *fifty*, and that like the globe;  
 With another for *five* often found,  
 And the first of the name of Old England's brave  
 queen,

Who thunder'd her cannons around :  
 These letters, in happy conjunction, will shew  
 The sweetest of passions that mortals can know.

## A N O T H E R.

**T**HE place where kings and queens abide,  
 And what rolls nobly o'er the tide :—  
 These words in combination will display,  
 The pretty trifling of the youthful day.

## A N O T H E R.

**A** Thing that is us'd when laid down at a door,  
 And two-fifths of what every one praises,  
 With the thing all will strive for, who would not  
 be poor.

Which the heart of its owner still raises.

Add these together, and you'll see

A happy state of life,

If those who know it, can agree

To keep out noise and strife.

## C O N C L U S I O N.

**A**ND thus our little volume's ended,  
 In which such various things are blended,  
 As, studied well, will teach the Lover,  
 He never ought to be a rover.

The

The maid may learn in many a part,  
 To save her pride, and guard her heart.  
 For through the work our wishes warm,  
 Have been to guard the sex from harm :  
 Dear sex !—the solace of our lives,  
 As mothers, daughters, maids, or wives.

How comfortless the man would roam  
 Without the solace of a home,  
 Where female sweetness still appears,  
 To bless him with her softest cares ;  
 To smile away all cause of strife,  
 And smooth the rugged road of life !

The youth enamoured may be taught  
 How cheaply real bliss is bought ;  
 That honor points the road to wealth,  
 And honest Love to lasting health.

Let men and maids, then, all agree  
 That MARRIAGE is TRUE LIBERTY :  
 With cautious heed, O let them shun  
 The ways which thousands have undone :  
 And learn, that as they hope the joys,  
 Of beauteous girls, and prattling boys,  
 That all of truly good and great  
 Is center'd in the MARRIED-STATE.

Let those who read our honest page,  
 Commend it to the RISING AGE ;  
 So shall our labors gain their end,  
 At once to *pleasure* and *amend*.

F I N I S.